

Cover to cover creativity for everyone!



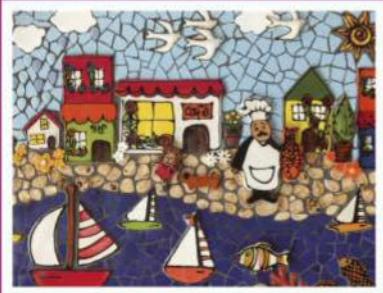
# Craftwise

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# Place witty acronym here:



Just how social is our social media? Does Facebook and Twitter allow us to communicate better or just more? Those of you who spend a bit of time each day browsing the Facebook posts of your 1 000 closest "friends" may have come across the Craftwise page and even my own personal page. Or maybe not. After all there are an estimated 1.57 billion Facebook users, with more than 1 billion daily users. Interesting term that, just by the way. "Users" - makes one think of addicts, which is what many of them are. Am I an addict? I check my own FB account at least 3 times a day and then there are the other 5 pages where I am an admin and of course I check the posts in the 25+ groups that I belong to. On average, I probably spend an hour or two daily scrolling through all those pages, hitting "Like" and "Share" at regular intervals. Call me an addict. Please hit "like" and then share this comment with all your BFF's, adding a few ROFL's, LOL's, OMG's and

perhaps even a LMAO or two. If the previous of acronyms are foreign to your vocab and leaves you wondering what I am talking about, then you must try them in Afrikaans... One of my FB buds frequently uses one that ends with 5 A's and she flatly refuses to tell me what it means. Arghh! If you have a list of Afrikaans acronyms please DM me. :)

Okay back to normal language. It's a Thursday morning here at the office and a berg wind has just blown in through the window, upsetting the piles of paper stacked strategically on every working surface in the room. Now I can claim that I DID know where everything was, but the wind shuffled them all up, so if that vital invoice is missing, it's not my fault! The wind did it. The forecast for today is 30 degree here along the coast. Mid-August and it's 30 degrees outside. Hello La Niña, and how is the little girl child today? Hot today and chilly tomorrow I suspect.

The boss has taken the day off to play

bowls in a Ladies Day competition in Sedgefield with her 2 bowling buddies. If they do their jobs properly they will be bringing home some lovely goodies tonight. Here in the office the work is almost done for the day and I am going to put my feet up and quickly check my FB page ...

Enjoy this issue and all the very best wishes to you and yours.

*Owen and the Craftwise Elves*



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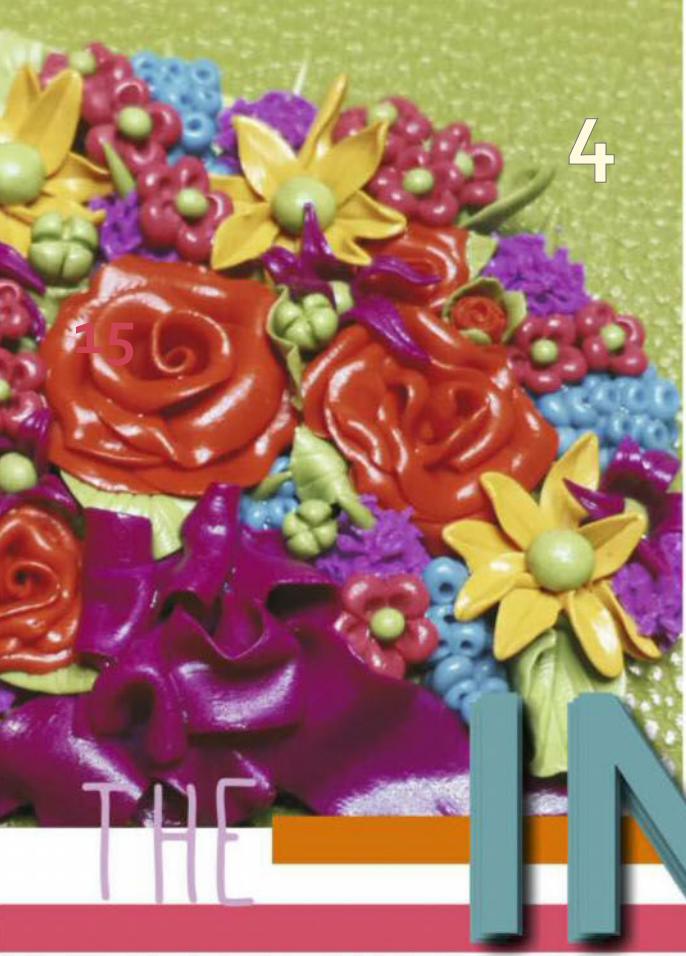
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4

15

THE

# INSIDE



58

4 Let's Celebrate Spring!: Polymer Clay  
*by Manda Theart*

7 Top it Off!: Mosaic  
*by Cá Momberg*

10 Silly Sheep Applique: Felt  
*by Sharon Calverley*

17 Staggered Brick Bracelet: Beading  
*by Henrietta Nel*

18 Diamond Silk Scarf: Lino Printing  
*by Melanie Brummer*

21 How to Draw the Nose and Mouth  
*by Lizelle van der Walt*

24 Chalky Dresser: Chalk Painting  
*by Ronel Swart*

26 Mixed Media Scrap Collage  
*by Karin du Toit*

28 Duo Button Bracelet: Beading  
*by Nadia Gerstner*

32 Vintage Frames with a Modern Twist  
*by Denelda van der Westhuizen*

34 Paint your own Peter Rabbit  
*by Lizelle van der Walt*

40 Hop to It : Mosaic Blackboard  
*by Ursula Janke*

44 Neon Delight: Cake Decorating  
*by Vanessa Broughton*

46 Pomegranates: Painting  
*by Ronel Swart*

49 Moon Drops: Stained Glass  
*by Jacqui Holmes*

52 Flower Project: Recycled Art  
*by Yvonne Watson*

56 Stippling Teddy Bears: Painting  
*by Ronel Swart*

58 Gecko's Rock!: Mosaic  
*by Mosaic Arts*

60 A Bird in the Hand: Felt  
*by Sharon Calverley*

64 Springing Life Back into the Garden  
*by Life is a Garden*

66 Sea Breeze Bracelet: Beading  
*by Francene Matthys*

68 Baa Baa Ellie: Baby Décor  
*by Hannalie Hurter*

70 Welkom: Mosaic  
*by Petro Strijdom*

72 Knitted Beaded Lampshade  
*by Sue Human*

project  
+  
inside

18

features

13 **September in the Garden**  
*by Life is a Garden*

37 **Tomatoes**  
*by Life is a Garden*

42 **Knitting Catches up with Me**  
*by Sue Human*

regulars

1 Editor's Letter

20 Snippets & Letters

30 Books & Things

55 Wordsearch

67 Subscriptions

74 Back Issues

80 Smalls

44

13

Craftwise | 3





# Let's celebrate Spring!

by Manda Thheart



We have made flowers in previous issues and today I am going to show you how to make some other types of flowers.

Get a group of friends together and have a clay party, making some cute accessories that can be used as earrings, a brooch or even accessories on a handbag that needs to be tiszujed up!

A clay party is great fun!

## REQUIREMENTS

- Polymer clay. I choose lovely spring colours.
- Tools: Stanley blade, different sizes sewing and knitting needles
- Small paintbrush
- Heritage Seal Skin
- Earring fittings
- Brooch pin
- Ring fitting
- Handbag
- Tile to work and bake on

# INSTRUCTIONS

1

## Roses

Roll orange clay into a string, cut in half. Flatten a piece like a ribbon and place on your index finger. Roll one end down, turn and roll upwards to form rose centre. Slice the rest of the string in little round pieces, flattening a little more before attaching to the centre. Remember not to go to low down as you need to gently bend the edge of each petal down.



2

## Rosebud

Roll a string of clay as if you are doing a rose centre but keep it tight. Fold pieces of ribbon around the centre to form little rosebuds.



3

## Leaves

Roll green clay into a wide ribbon. Cut into squares. Pull a little on each end and draw lines on either side. In other words one square becomes two leaves. Cut in half. Add three leaves to each rose and rosebud.



*Note: If the clay tears or breaks when you pull, just be more gentle. The more you practice the more you will understand the clay. Don't give up!*

Use more or less clay to make bigger or smaller flowers.

4

## Daisies

Roll clay into a thin string. Cut 8 even petals. Roll into balls and then into petals. Gently putting pressure on one end then on the other end with your fingertip. Flatten and draw line with needle.

Place four petals in a cross shape with a opening in the middle. Fill in the gaps. Place a little green ball in the middle. When you pick them up from the tile with the blade, the flower will curve naturally.



5

## Lilies

Flatten purple clay into a string and cut 5 long triangle leaves. Draw a line with your needle. Roll a centre with green clay, starting with a ball, put pressure in the middle while rolling to form a stem with a little ball on the end.

Place the leaves around the stem and gently bend outwards. To make a few lily buds, roll green clay into a teardrop. Indent a cross on the end with a thin needle.



6

## Pink flowers

Roll pink string. Cut 5 pieces. Roll into balls and place in a circle. Indent towards the centre and finish with a little green ball.

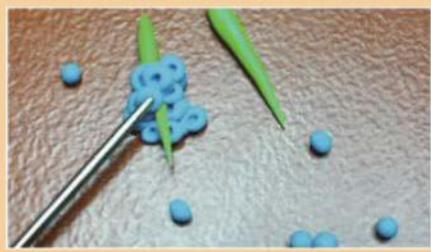


7

## Blueberry flower

Roll blue clay into a string. Cut different size pieces and roll into balls.

Roll a little green stem and starting at the back, place blue balls randomly on the green stem, indenting each one with a blunt needle as you place them.



8

**Lilac flower**

Press a ball of lilac clay onto your tile, firmly so it won't move when you work. Roll a green stem.

Scratch the lilac clay with a needle holding it upright and build flower onto the green stem.



9

**Assembly:****Ring**

Press green clay onto the ring. Make sure it goes over the edge. Fold the clay over the edge this will make the ring strong. Start at the centre with a rose and arrange flowers around it.

**Earrings**

Do the same with the earrings, ensuring that the clay goes around the base.

**Handbag**

Flatten a oval piece of green clay, again starting with your roses and have fun filling in with the other flowers. Depending on what kind of fabric your handbag is made from - sew or glue your arrangement onto the bag.

**Brooch**

Finish the same as handbag piece. Bake for 30 minutes. Let it cool. Add brooch pin and press a ribbon of clay over the brooch to secure. Bake again for 30 minutes.

Bake all your accessories at 120 °C for a hour. Let it cool completely then seal with Heritage seal skin. Wear it and look fabulous.

Until next time...

*Blessings and lots of love*

*Manda*



You can contact Manda on 083 226 1521.



# Top it off!

*By Cá Momberg, Vanessa Senekal and family for Glacermo CC*

Mosaic an outdoor table with this lovely design and you will have a décor item that will make everyone envious. We have used Tile Flex as an adhesive as it simply is the best for outdoor items. Make sure that your tiles are of an even thickness to prevent an uneven table top.

## REQUIREMENTS

- 1 x garden table with a steel base
- Tile Flex
- Grout
- Bonding liquid
- Bucket for mixing grout and water
- Small plastic squeegee, old spatula or rubber kidney for grouting
- Two wheel tile cutters

- 'Mosaic sealant
- **Glass tiles:**
  - 1/2 sheet black
  - 1 sheet red
  - 1 sheet light yellow
  - 2 sheets dark yellow
  - 1 sheet white
  - 3 sheets lime green

- 3 sheets dark green
- 1 sheet grey
- 1/2 sheet orange
- 2 sheets baby blue
- 2 sheets light blue
- 3 sheets navy blue
- 3 sheets dark blue

# INSTRUCTIONS

1

## Prepare surface and transfer design:

Make sure you wash and clean the table top surface properly to ensure that your mosaic remains firmly installed.

2

Trace pattern, adapting design as needed to fit **your** table. Because our table has a black background we used white chalk to draw the design onto the table.



3

## Prepare tiles:

Using tile nippers cut all the tiles that you plan to use into a variety of smaller shapes. Store the cut tile pieces according to colour in separate containers for easy use.

Triangular and trapezium shaped glass pieces are placed with their shorter sides together. Make sure each piece fits nicely once you start glueing.

The quality and finish of your project is determined by how well the pieces fit together.

4

## Attach tesserae (cut tiles): glass tiles

We divided the mosaic into sections for each person to complete. One person started with the bird, while another worked on the flower, another on the bird's body and so on.

This makes working a big project like this much more manageable and a fun activity for everyone in the family.

Using Tile Flex, glue the tiles in place.

Remember to leave enough space for grout between each tile.

**NOTE:** It's very important to stay **within** the inner line of the design.

5

We used different shades of green and yellow to give contrast and depth to the design.



6

The outside edge must be done neatly. It is important to realize that because the table is round sometimes tiles need to be tapered slightly. Luckily for this project we didn't need to taper any tiles! We used uncut tiles for the 2 rows on the outer edge. Should you ever need to taper tiles for a round edge, follow the diagram below.



**NOTE: Once you have cut the tapered blocks flip each alternate one around so all the thin ends are together and see how the curve is formed.**



7

Now all that remains is to fill in the background. To avoid the picture becoming boring we use cut pieces of tiles in different colours of dark, light blue and grey, filling in from the outside inwards ending with light grey in the centre of the table. This not only adds depth but gives us a lovely blue sky!



8

## Grout:

Black or dove grey grout can be used. First put the grout powder in the mixing bowl then add a little bit of bonding liquid to mix it to the consistency of toothpaste. Scoop up a bit of grout.

Smear the grout down with a small plastic squeegee, forcing the grout into the grooves between the tile pieces. Once you're satisfied that all of the gaps are filled, use the plastic squeegee to remove the excess grout with the second swipe over the tiled surface.

Leave the grout to dry for about 10 minutes. If you leave to dry for longer you will struggle to remove excess grout because you used bonding liquid to mix your grout.

Use a scrunched up newspaper to rub softly over the tiles. If the grout flakes off it means it's ready to clean. Keep on rubbing with the newspaper until your tiles are clean. By using newspaper you do not risk removing grout between the tiles.

Lastly seal with several coats of mosaic sealer to protect the grout from spills and the elements.



Pour yourself a nice cup of tea and enjoy your masterpiece!

CW

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Enlarge as required.

# Silly Sheep Appliqued Cover

*This cute little appliqued sheep can be used in a variety of ways from turning it into a key ring, embellishing a notebook cover or used without the backing fabric as a design on a baby's blanket. Its quick to make and you will be using basic embroidery stitches.*



## REQUIREMENTS

- Assortment of wool blend felt in your choice of colours
- 40 cm x 21 cm of wool fabric in dark grey
- A5 hard cover notebook
- Appliqué paper
- Pen or pencil
- Sharp embroidery scissors
- Paper scissors
- Embroidery thread: Dark brown, light pink, black, light blue and grey or colours that match your felt

- Embroidery needle
- 2 Beads (please keep in mind that if you are going to use the appliqué for a child's item - **do not** use beads!)
- Iron
- Overlocker/sewing machine that can do an overlock stitch
- Double-sided tape (the kind card makers use)
- Usual sewing requirements

Optional: Pink blusher

*By Sharon Calverley*

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Trace the pattern pieces onto the paper side of appliqué paper. The appliqué paper also helps to keep the shapes crisp.

Cut shapes out just outside the lines then fuse to the back of your chosen felt pieces.

2

Cut the individual shapes out along the lines.

**TIP:** Punch the eyes out with a office paper punch and you will get a crisp, round shape.

Cut a  $5\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8\frac{3}{4}''$  piece of felt for the background piece.

Fuse the pieces onto the background using the numbered sequence 1 - 5. No 1 will be first and 5 last.



3

Using 2 strands of embroidery thread, blanket stitch around the pieces. Use a single strand for the eyes and eyelashes. For the eyelashes I used a stab stitch.

I used a running stitch on the heart with 2 strands of pink thread. Make 2 little stab stitches with pink thread for the nose.

The body was blanket stitched with 2 strands of light blue and a naive blanket stitch - long and short blanket stitches.

Attach the beads to the eyes. **Don't** attach beads if you are going to use the appliqué on a young child's item.

If you are going to use the appliqué on the notebook cover as we are - it won't get washed so dab a little bit of blusher on the cheeks.

*Pieces fused in place*



*Appliquéd to background felt*



4

Overlock (serge) the raw edges of the grey woollen fabric.

Place onto book and fold over edges, making sure that each flap is the same width.

While woollen fabric is still on book, place the appliqué onto the front making sure that it is centred properly. Pin in place.

Remove book and put to one side. Blanket stitch sheep panel in place on front side

using a dark coloured thread.



5

Apply double-sided tape to the front and back of the notebook. Also to the inside flap.

Remove the paper side from the double-sided tape on the back only. (Not the flaps.)

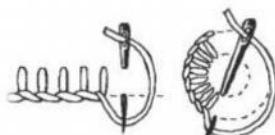
Carefully position the book onto the felt making sure there are no wrinkles. Remove the paper from the double-sided tape on the back flap and glue the flap in place.

Now do the same with the front, working in the same way as you would when normally covering a hardcover book.

If you are giving this as a gift to someone special why not make a matching card?

CW

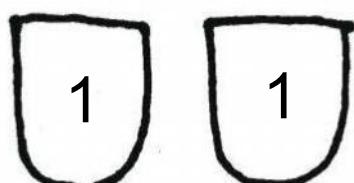
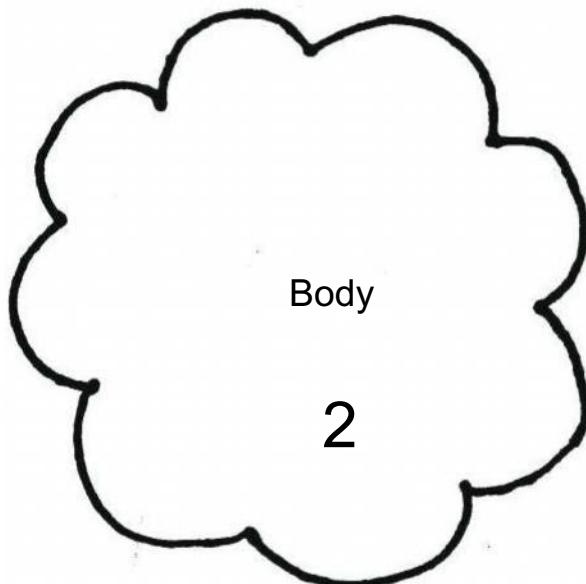
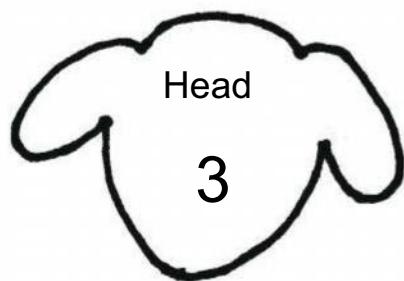
### Blanket Stitch



**Wool blend felt is available online only from [www.thefatquarter.co.za](http://www.thefatquarter.co.za)**



Note: Position of head and heart is your choice



Legs



*Spring has sprung and nearly everything is in flower all over. If you're short on colour, tools, pots, fertilisers, seeds and inspiration, relax! Your nearest garden centre stands at the ready to help you shop 'til you drop. So, dig deep and plant to your heart's content and your life will become a garden! One can simply not afford to miss out on the excitement and joy of spring and remember, what cannot supply instant gratification now, will not take too long to produce the fruits and flowers you need in summer. Come on, let's jump to it!*

# SEPTEMBER

## *in the Garden*

by Life is a Garden

Bright and beautiful is in!

Your top flower priority is to fill sun-drenched spaces with indigenous gazanias which are in flower and available in seedling trays all over now. New hybrids of these spectacular plants appear every year, sporting huge flowers in stunning colour ranges. Keep on adding more colour with lots of daisy bushes, osteospermum, felicia, arctotis, and nemesia. But, also remember that the face of spring definitely includes the beautiful clivia for shady spots. You will find them in flower and 'on special' now!



Also don't forget to plant these seedlings now, for a burst of colour:

**Coleus** – These are grown for their foliage which is available in many different colours and bicouours, and brighten up any dull, shady area. They can also be grown indoors, or can make a good replacement for Impatiens. Grow them in shade to semi-shade, but some of the new types are bred for the sun. Ranging in height from 25 cm to 45 cm depending on the variety.



**Dahlia** – This is really an old favourite. Bedding Dahlia's are tough, full sun plants that are available in a wide range of colours, with large daisy like flowers on bushy plants. They come in different heights, depending on the variety. Keep a look out for the Harlequin's which are a spectacular bi-colour type.

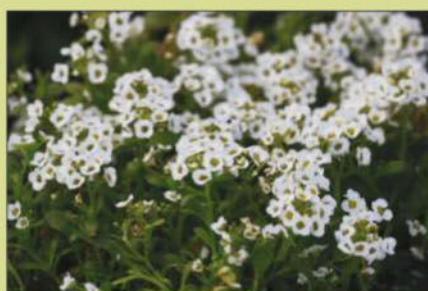
**Petunia** – These are one of the most popular bedding plants. Available in a multitude of colours and bi-colours -even black! There are 4 types of Petunias: mini-flora (very small flowers), midi-flora (small flowers, but many), multi-flora (medium sized flowers, but many), and grandiflora (large flowers, but fewer of). They differ in habit from upright, to semi-cascading, to full cascading. **Fun fact:** the flowers are edible too.



**Begonia** – A bedding plant favourite. Masses of small flowers on upright bushes with colours from white, to pink, to red, with leaves in either green or bronze. Plant in semi-shade. The bronze leaf type can be planted in the sun, as long as enough water is provided.



**Alyssum (Lobularia)** – sweetly scented flowers on low spreading plants. Great as an edging plant. Plant these in sun to semi-shade. Available in white, pinks, and purples.



Start sowing asters, celosias, cosmos, marigolds, nasturtiums, salvias, sunflowers, vincas and zinnias. You will be

amazed at the eye candy value which hides in a cheap seed packet!

You are not yet done with bulb planting. Summer flowering bulbs are now on sale. Start planting coloured zantedeschia hybrids and dahlias.



**Veggies:** Sow artichokes (Globe), bush beans, climbing beans, beetroot, eggplant, cabbages, carrots, celery, chillies, cucumbers, sweet peppers, lettuce, corn, (sweet corn), melon (sweet and watermelon), peas, pumpkin, radishes, rhubarb, spinach (Swiss chard), squash, and tomatoes. Also do more sowings of salad greens and herbs like watercress, rocket, coriander, baby spinach and mustard.



**Fruit:** As soon as about 80% of the blossoms on fruit trees have dropped, you should start spraying against fruit fly. Spray stone fruit trees to protect them from leaf curl disease. Your nearest garden centre will have the right product. If you do not own any fruit trees, your nearest plant stockist will come to your rescue. All plants men will have large stocks of fruit trees now.

Berries of all kinds are good for your health and different varieties are readily available. To ensure a good crop of berries, prepare beds by working soil over with a

fork and add in compost and a balanced fertiliser for fruit and flowers, prior to planting.

Start planting young strawberry plants too.

**Feeding:** All fruit trees must be fed with a balanced fertiliser this month. Also feed young veggie seedlings regularly with a water-soluble growth stimulant to make them strong.

**More Fertilising:** Keep on feeding spring bulbs with bulb food to boost flowering again in another season. Apply a water-soluble plant food to flower borders, pots and containers regularly. Feed azaleas as they finish blooming with an acid loving water soluble plant food. Add a rose and flower fertiliser to roses and shrub beds. This will give them a welcome boost for the upcoming season. In fact, everything in a garden or pot, should be fed this month!

**Pretty trees for birds and bees:** Arbour Week is 17 September, so try plant some indigenous trees. Remember, trees clean the air and provide us with oxygen. Visit your local nursery to find the best tree for your garden! There is a multitude of indigenous trees available, 2 to look out for are:

- *Kiggelaria africana* (wild peach) branches out wide and low, supply deep shade and forms a dense neat crown. This is a handy indigenous tree to use as screening or to protect a garden against wind.
- *Dombeya rotundifolia* (wild pear) is always the harbinger of spring when its bare branches are covered in sweet smelling, white blossoms. A fast growing and hardy little indigenous tree for small gardens across the country.

#### Must do's:

- Keep snails in check they have the potential to decimate young growth overnight. Emerging perennials like hostas are especially vulnerable. Enquire at your nearest nursery for the best snail-busting product to use.

- Weed regularly before it gets out of hand. Treat weeds on paving, pathways and in gravelled areas with a broad spectrum weed killer. Visit your local garden centre for some expert advice!
- Spray roses with a 3in1 product to control black spot, mildew and aphids.

Seedlings, colour bags and herbs with lots of colour and which are dynamic for your spring garden are readily available at nurseries. Visit your local nursery for some options.

If you have not yet fed your garden then this is the perfect time to feed existing trees, shrubs, annuals, seedlings and vegetables.



#### Western Cape

**Herbal grays:** Some of the best herbs have silver, grey, or greyish green leaves which makes them handy to add contrast colour in the veggie and flower garden. These herbs mostly have a strong flavour for cooking and are also able to repel pests efficiently. Plant all of these cooling beauties now: lavender, santolina, curry plant, artichoke, sage and lamb's ear.



#### KwaZulu Natal

Gardeners lucky to live in the warmer areas of this province should remember to plant *petrea volubilis* (purple wreath), a semi-evergreen shrub or creeper which produces sprays of violet blue flowers in spring.



#### Gauteng

A perfect tree to plant is *Magnolia x soulangeana*. It is a deciduous tree, about 6 m x 6 m in size. Out of the gnarled main stem sprouts many side branches which produce the most awesome tulip-shaped flowers in shades of pink, dark pink, lilac and white from late winter to spring. (The flower colour will depend on the variety you plant).

From afar, these large flowers which bloom in abundance on the tree, create the illusion that a great swarm of exotic birds came to visit the garden. Light green leathery leaves only appear when the flowering period is over. The little tree's summer canopy does not cast deep shade, which allows the gardener to plant lots of annuals, perennials and small shrubs beneath it. A perfect tree for a small or cottage style garden. Easy to grow, but slow to grow up.

Sow corn and sweet corn directly and in rows in a sunny spot of the veggie garden. Keep the rows 60-90 cm apart and space the small planting holes about 3-5 cm deep and about 30-35 cm apart. Plant two seeds in each hole in case some do not germinate. Once growing, you can inter-plant the rows with other veggies like squashes, kidney beans and salad crops, to save space.

#### Free State

Plant seed potatoes in spring. There are different ways of doing this you can plant them in bags, old tyres, deep drums or

any container deep enough, and which can be topped up with soil as they grow. The traditional way is of course in trenches of about 10 to 12 cm deep, which are filled and earthed up while the tubers are growing.



### North West

When the monkey thorns (*Senegalia galpinii*) start blooming in this region, one knows that spring has arrived in all its glory. This fast growing thorn tree grows into a large specimen, has a big root system, and is therefore only suited to large gardens, but definitely worth planting for its honey scented cream to yellow flowers.

**Fun to do:** Pot up hanging baskets with summer colour like pelargoniums, cascading petunias and the new basket lobelias. Also remember that one can grow quite a large selection of herbs and sweet strawberries in hanging baskets. To keep them from drying out too quickly, add a water retention product to the potting soil before planting.

### Northern Cape

Bulk mulching protects plant roots against the heat and fast water loss. Spend all your energy and resources to cover your whole garden with mulch, as it might still be a while before the rain arrives. As the days become longer, temperatures rise, plants become stressed. This stress can be decreased by a layer of mulch. When rain arrives at last, the mulch will keep the soil moist for much longer. Materials to use include coarse compost, composted bark, leaf mould, pine needles, straw, peanut or other nut shells, peach pits, shavings, pebbles and stones.



### Eastern Cape

Plan something new for your garden this spring nurseries are loaded with new releases and great ideas. Favourites include all the new dipladenias (red, yellow, pink, white), the liquorice scented agastaches, tuberous begonias with enormous blooms, compact and free flowering basket petunias and the colourful bergamots.



**Trending:** Plant up an old pair of jeans with your favourite annuals, or your old gum boots with succulents and then place them in your garden. Vertical gardening is a lot of fun, recycle old pallets and fill them with succulents, or herbs, or just annuals for colour.

Paint pots, relay pebble pathways, add a new feature, or include a bird bath in your garden. Plant tropical fruits like bananas and paw paws now.

### Mpumalanga

Look out for lobelias as a cascading show of blue to spill over containers, or even for patio table bowls. Star of the spring bedding plant colour has to be Petunias! They will explode with colour in the hottest and driest spots in the garden and containers. Petunias don't like a much

overhead water, which is why they do so well this time of the year, when we don't expect much rain.

Pinch back plants like Fuchsias to encourage them to become more bushy. Remove old, spent winter flowering annuals and replant with more long-blooming summer annuals like marigolds and dianthus. They like full sun and well composted soil. To keep the blooms blooming (for up to 4 months at a time) deadhead them regularly.



### Limpopo

Take fynbos to Limpopo! Nurseries in this region report that they will have beautiful stock of pincushions, proteas and ericas. Plant them in a sunny spot, in well drained soil and use acid compost to enrich the soil. Do not add superphosphate.

If your azaleas have finished flowering, some of them may be a little too tall or scraggly. They can now be trimmed, as they will soon bush out and produce even more flowers next spring.



For more information on bringing Life to your Garden, visit our website [www.lifeisagarden.co.za](http://www.lifeisagarden.co.za) or join the conversation on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/lifeisagardensa](http://www.facebook.com/lifeisagardensa).



# Staggered Brick Bracelet

## REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

Skill Level: Easy

**Bracelet size:** ±18 cm

**Stitch used:** Peyote Stitch

- Delica seed beads: Colour A, B and C
- 1 x Clasp
- ± 8 m Nymo
- Beading needle

Use a comfortable length Nymo and thread the needle. Leave a ± 30 cm tail which will be used to zip bricks together or to add the one part of the clasp.

### **Brick 1:**

Pick up 24 x Colour A beads and peyote 1 row. Peyote 2 x Colour A beads, 20 x Colour B beads and 2 x Colour A beads for a total of 20 rows. Peyote two rows with Colour A beads. Leave the tail as it will be used to attach the staggered bricks together.

### **Brick 2:**

Pick up 24 x Colour A beads and peyote 1 row. Peyote 2 x Colour A beads, 20 x Colour C beads and 2 x Colour A beads for a total of 20 rows. Peyote two rows with Colour A beads.

Leave the tail as it will be used to attach the staggered bricks together.

Stitch the bricks together, leaving the same space at the beginning / end of each brick.

Create as many bricks as needed to fit around **your** wrist. Keep in mind that a clasp measures ± 2 cm.

Add the clasp. Sew away all the tails.





# Diamond Silk Scarf

I dyed this silk scarf using one of the techniques from my second book, *50 Silk Scarves*.

When I stepped back and looked at it I felt there should be something more. I love to see prints over tie dye - the layering and texture are a delight for my eyes. The pattern looked a bit "flat" and I could see a print dropped over the diamond shapes, so I set to work to make one from lino.

## REQUIREMENTS

### To make the stamp you will need:

- 10 cm x 10 cm lino rubber mat
- Black marker pen
- Ruler
- Round shapes for tracing circles (I used a glass and a cup)
- Lino or wood carving tool
- Craft knife

### To print the silk scarf you will need:

- Old blanket
- Silk scarf (pre-dyed)
- Lime green and lilac fabric paint
- Spray bottle for keeping paint moist in hot/dry conditions
- Sponge rollers and ink trays
- Rubber roller
- Old towel (wet) for wiping fingers

by Melanie Brummer

*If you are interested in other binding techniques for tie dye, send me an e-mail with the words "Six of the best!" in the tagline and I will send you a complimentary eBook that shares six of my binding patterns in detailed step-by-step pictures: [info@dyeandprints.co.za](mailto:info@dyeandprints.co.za)*

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

### Making the lino

Draw the pattern that you want onto the lino mat using the black marker pen and then carve out the lines and some detail using the wood carving tool.



Shape the edges of the stamp using a craft knife.



2

### Printing the silk scarf

Place the stamp where you plan to print it so you can get an idea of how it is going to look.

Put a glob of fabric paint on the ink tray and roll the wheel to distribute an even coating of paint all around the sponge. Then apply a thin layer of paint to the surface of the stamp using the sponge roller.



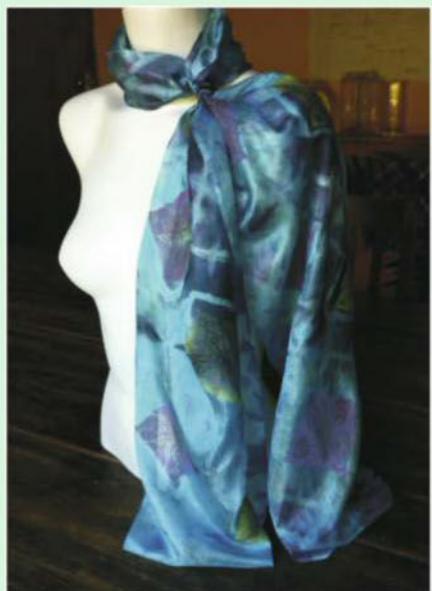
Press the stamp into the fabric using the palm of your hand. The blanket ensures that the ink transfers onto the cloth. The padded surface makes sure that everything touches with enough pressure to transfer the paint.

Drop a row of lilac stamps over the row of green diamonds, and drop a row of green stamps over the purple ones.

The print is intended as an enhancement to what is already there so I worked within the framework of the tie dyed background.

Iron the fabric paint with a hot iron. The supplier of the paint that I used says "Heat to 140 °C for 6 minutes." Each supplier has their own specifications on their products, so stick to the instructions on the bottle that you are using for the job.

I prefer the look of the scarf with the prints - they really make this silk scarf pop! CW



# snippets & letters

Designed by the country's top landscape architects and designers, 20 diverse and creative show gardens will be on display at the show this year.

This annual lifestyle show brings together gardens and gardening, planting trends and designs for living outdoors; unites notions of beauty,

We have 2 x double tickets for the Cape Town Flower Show to give away to Craftwise Readers!!

To enter your name in the draw, just send an email to [comps@craftwise.co.za](mailto:comps@craftwise.co.za) and tell us why YOU should have a set of tickets.

THE  
**CAPE TOWN**  
FLOWER SHOW  
**27 - 30 OCTOBER 2016**  
**CASTLE OF GOOD HOPE, CAPE TOWN**

sanctuary and sustainability; and celebrates local food, culture and community. The show taps into a gardening culture that's young, vibrant and identifies with a universal awareness for the need to care for the environment.

[www.capetownflowershow.co.za](http://www.capetownflowershow.co.za)



Izelle Venter from George wrote to us and shared some photos of her hobby which involves the use of alcohol inks on aluminium and tiles. She explains that it is a challenging and taxing way of spending your time, but the end product is sure to elicit positive comments. She sells much of what she produces and is always looking at new surfaces to experiment on.

*Thank you for sharing your hobby with us Izelle!*



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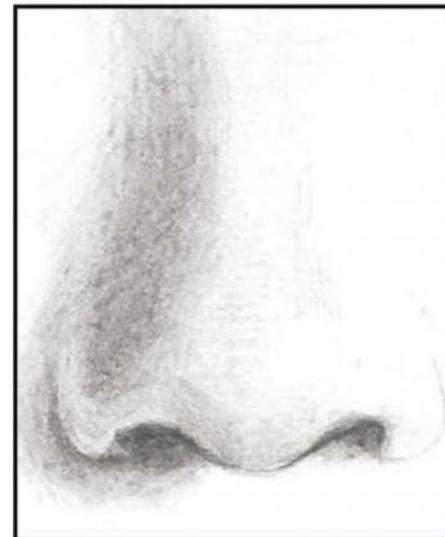
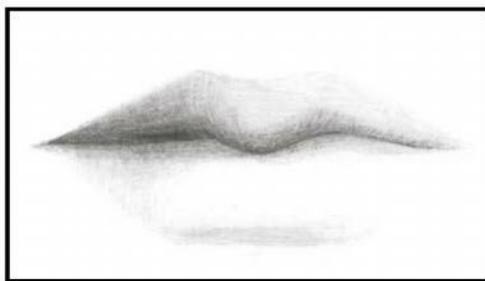
# *The "no-talent-needed" guide to drawing a face*

by Lizelle van der Walt

## Lesson 3:

### How to draw the nose and mouth

Over the years we have had many requests for basic drawing and art lessons. One of the recurring requests is: "Please teach us how to draw a face." So, over the next four issues our art teacher, Lizelle van der Walt, will share her secrets with us starting off with the face shape and then the various features. We hope you enjoy the lessons!



## REQUIREMENTS

Pencil  
Eraser  
Ruler  
Cartridge paper

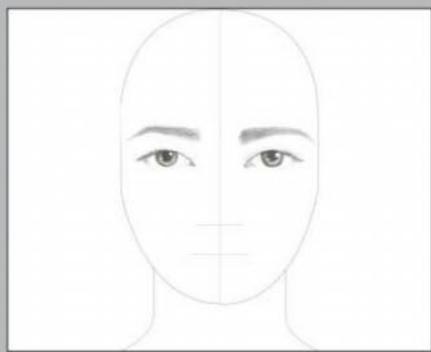
### Guide to using the illustrations:

The arrows and numbers are **not** to be drawn, they are there to help clarify the instructions.

## INSTRUCTIONS

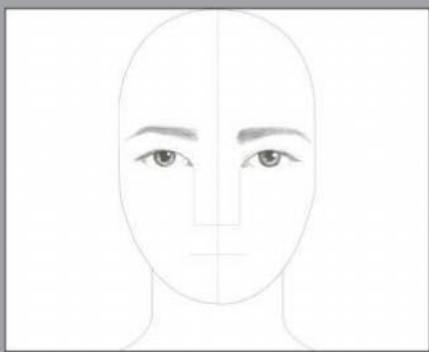
1

This is the third lesson in a four lesson series on how to draw the face. In lesson one I showed you how to draw the head and neck. In lesson two you learned how to draw the eyes. If you have been following along with us your face should look like this now.



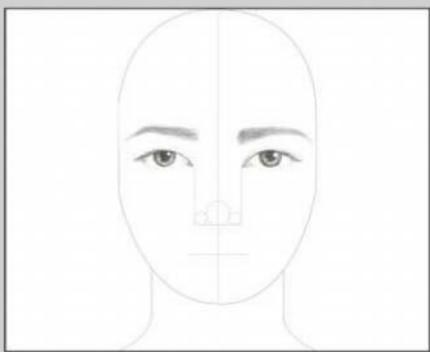
2

Lightly draw a vertical line down from the inside edge of the eye towards the nose line. These lines are where the outside edges of the nose is going to be.



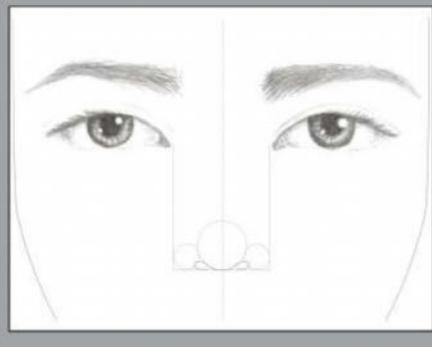
3

To draw the nose we will be using three circles. Lightly draw the biggest circle in the middle and the two smaller circles on either side. All the circles will be "sitting" on top of the nose line.

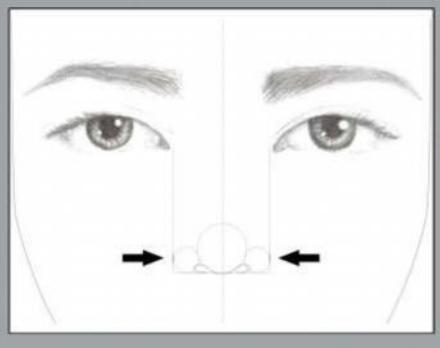


Make sure that the two smaller circles are the same size and that they do not extend past the outside border edge you have drawn for yourself in step 2.

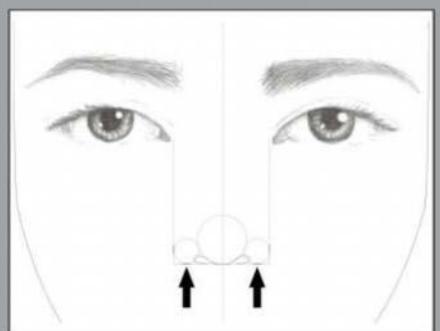
4 Lightly draw a small, flat horizontal line on the bottom of the biggest circle. Now, draw two hook-shaped nostrils on either side of that line using the negative space between the three circles.



5 On the outer edge of the smaller circle draw a short vertical line where the edge of the circle touches the border edge of the nose. Do the same on the other side.

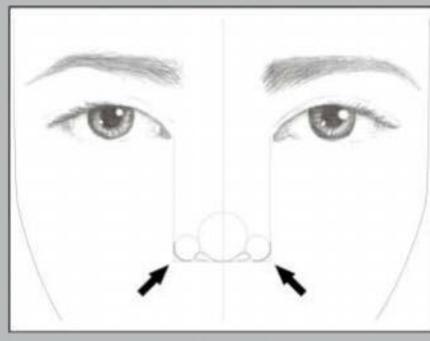


6 Draw a small horizontal line where the bottom of the small circle touches the nose line. Repeat this on the other side too.



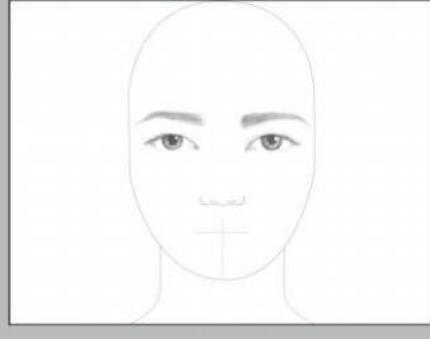
7

These lines will now become the outer corners of the nostrils. Connect the vertical and the horizontal lines with a slightly angular curved line. Make sure this curved line looks the same on both sides.



8

Erase the circles, nose line and guidelines (including the centre line up to just below the nose) and voilà - the easiest way to draw a nose!



9

#### Shading the nose:

When doing any shading it is always important to first establish where your light source is coming from. Let's say the light source is coming from the upper right hand corner. Because the light source is coming from the right, most of the shade will be on the left side of the nose.

Use a cross hatching technique. Try to draw the lines where the contour lines of the face would be. This helps to emphasize the shape of the face and makes it appear more three dimensional.

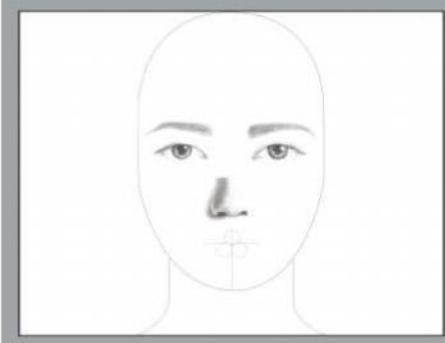
Remember that the bottom part of the nose will typically be darker due to the fact that most light sources are usually above the face. Look at the images below to see more or less where the shade and highlights of the nose will be.

Tip: Keep your lines very close to each other when shading. Use a 2H pencil to lightly "colour in" over your cross hatching to get rid of the small white parts in between the cross hatching. This will help to make the nose look like it has a smooth skin texture.



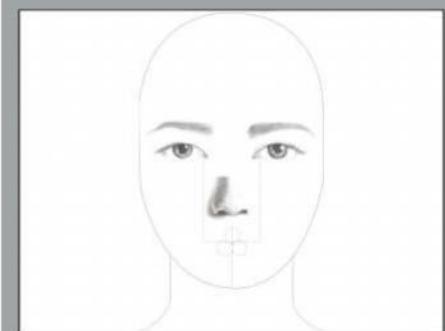
10

Now for the lips! To draw the lips we will again be using three circles. This time, however, the circles will be the same size. Lightly draw two circles of the same size on either side of the centre line of the face. These bottom two circles will mostly be below the mouth line. Lightly draw another circle of the same size on top of the two bottom circles. This top circle will mostly be above the mouth line.



11

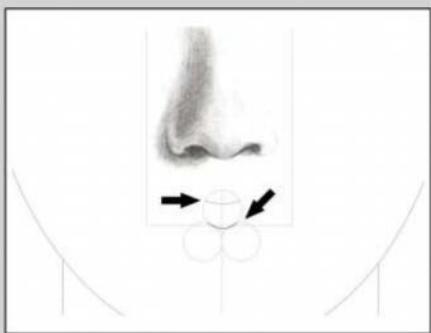
Lightly draw a vertical line down from where the tear ducts would be located in the eyes towards the lip line.



This line is to show you where the outer corner of the lips will be.

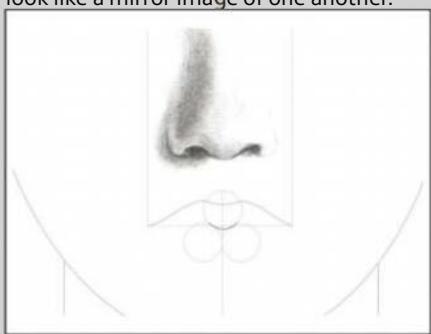
12

Draw a curved line horizontally through the top circle. Draw a similar curved line at the bottom of the same circle.



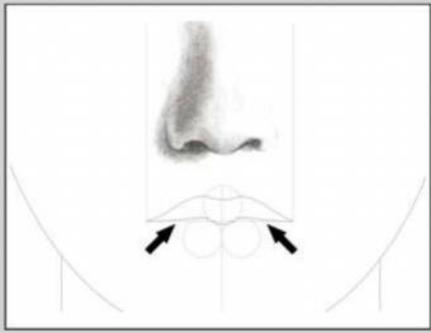
13

Using a bow-like line, connect the top curved line with the outside edges of the mouth. Try to make sure that the lines on either sides are similar. They should ideally look like a mirror image of one another.



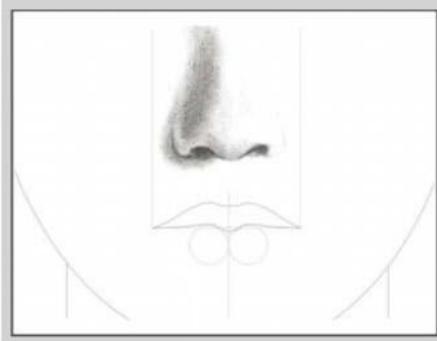
14

Now, using a similar bow-like line (although it should look like the bow was flattened), connect the bottom curved line with the outer edge of the lips.



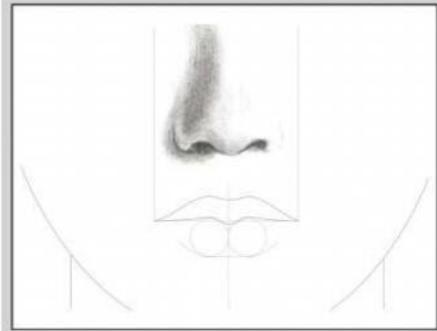
15

Erase the top circle. You will now clearly see the top lip.



16

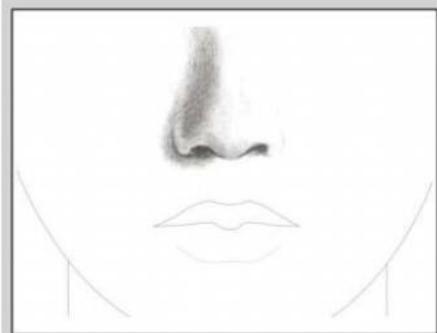
Draw a line around the bottom part of the two bottom circles. Make a slight and very subtle indented curve in the middle of the two circles. On the outer edge of the circle you can start gently angling the line up towards the edge of the mouth.



Tip: I rarely draw the line of the bottom lip all the way to the edge of the mouth. I usually just fade the line lightly in that direction. You will see that this will create a more natural looking mouth.

17

Erase the circles and guide lines as well as the vertical line in the middle of the face.

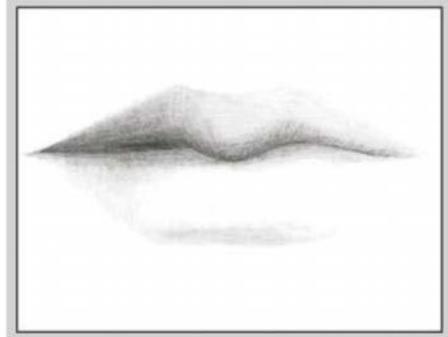


18

#### Shading the mouth:

Because a light source will usually be coming from above, the top lip will usually be shaded slightly darker than the bottom lip. Use the same cross hatching

technique you used on the nose. Follow the contour lines of the mouth.



*While you are waiting for the next issue of Craftwise Magazine you can practice drawing the nose and mouth until you no longer have to use the circles. With repetition you will start to develop a natural feel for where each line should be and you will eventually be able to discard all the guidelines.*

*In the next issue of Craftwise we will be completing the face by adding the ears, hair and shading to the rest of the face.*

CW





# Chalky DRESSER

*Just a sweet memory...*

*This little dresser was a part of my childhood and stood behind the kitchen door next to the sink in my parent's home. In those days it was painted with white enamel paint.*

*Today, many decades later, the dresser has an honourary place in my kitchen's tea corner, a place where I store my favourite tea and coffee ceramics. This corner is a happy place as its always sun-drenched and a welcome place for friends and family.*

*In this sunny corner you can enjoy home baked bread, jams and freshly brewed coffee whilst basking in the sun!*



by Ronel Swart  
email: [ronelsart@gmail.com](mailto:ronelsart@gmail.com)

## REQUIREMENTS

- Search for a wooden piece of furniture in need of tender loving care
- Sugar soap
- Sandpaper or electrical sander
- Old toothbrush
- Tinted universal undercoat
- Turpentine

- Americana Chalky Finish Paint in:
  - White
  - Vintage
  - Primitive
  - Treasure
  - Relic

- Stencils - the same ones you used on the fridge
- Paintbrush and sponge brush
- Americana Crème Wax or Light Satin Varnish (See step 5)

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Wash the furniture thoroughly with sugar soap, getting into all the hidden corners with a toothbrush.

Sand slightly either by hand or electrical sander to give the paint a 'tooth'.

Dust very well and wipe with a damp cloth to get rid of the sanding dust.

Apply a very thin layer of Universal Undercoat. To make it thinner I mixed some turpentine with paint. Because the dresser was varnished many years ago this thinned down coat of paint helps it hold the paint better. I always make sure that my surfaces are well prepared for the chalk paint as this ensures that the paint doesn't peel at a later stage.

Leave the Universal Undercoat to dry at least 24 hours.



2

Apply a thinned down coat of Vintage chalk paint. I suggest you rather paint two coats of thinned down paint than one thick coat.

The reason for the thinned down paint is that I wanted the wood grain to show

through both the chalk and universal undercoat paint.



I painted the top of the cupboard and doors with two thinned coats of Primitive chalk paint. I mixed Vintage and Treasure chalk paint then painted the door frames.

3

When the paint has dried, sand the pieces. (I used my electrical sander because it's the best option for me after my hand operations). You are looking for a worn, but chic look! After sanding you might need to touch up here and there with some chalk paint.



4

Stenciling is always great fun. I used the same stencils I used on my fridges. I stencilled the designs with a mixture of Relic and Primitive chalk paint and a sponge brush.



Stencils used were: Distressed Harlequin on the sides and a combination of French Bakery, French Living and Café Paris on the doors.

Royal Tile was used as a border and Victorian Baroque on the counter top.



5

The paint must be completely dry before sealing.

**Option 1:** Crème Wax

Gives the piece a hand-polished luster and durability. This product provides a smooth application that is protective and can be buffed to a brilliant sheen.

**Option 2:** Light Satin Varnish

Used as a top coat to any acrylic paint and provides a soft sheen and durable polyurethane finish. This was the option I chose - a beautiful finish for all my hard work!





# mixed media scrap collage

Decorate a wooden frame with items that have a special meaning and you will have created a beautiful keepsake!

## REQUIREMENTS

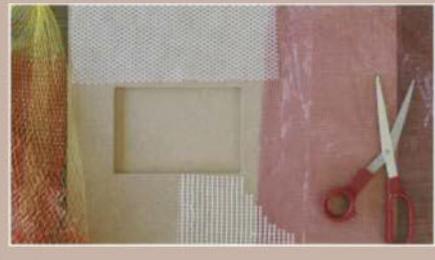
- Wooden frame
- Craft glue
- Mesh (old vegetable bags or fiberglass mesh used for mosaic)
- Wooden cut out gears
- Bird cage cardboard cut outs
- Variety of objects such as:  
Buttons, nuts, bolts and screws, shells, small plastic toys, hinges, small plastic forks and spoons, old costume jewellery, flowers (paper, plastic or fabric), zips, buckles, old keys, embellishments (plastic and metal), plastic trimmings, chains, beads, pieces of lace, locks, pins, pegs and basically any small items you want to put on your artwork
- Black canvas primer or gesso (sometimes it is difficult to find black – you can use white instead and when it is dry, cover with black craft paint)
- Craft paint: gold, silver and copper
- Assorted paintbrushes (flat brushes for applying glue and black primer, round brushes for dry-brushing)

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Make sure the wooden frame is dust free by wiping it with a damp cloth.

Cut different pieces of mesh into blocks and plan a layout so that they cover the whole frame.



2

Apply a generous layer of craft glue to the frame.



3

Stick the mesh down onto frame, smoothing out all the wrinkles with your fingers. Wait until glue is dry.



4

Arrange the bird cage cut outs, wooden gears and other objects onto the frame to your liking. Make sure all objects are clean and grease free before you stick them on. Items such as hinges and screws sometimes have an oily layer on them.



5

Once you are happy with your design, glue everything onto the frame. Wait until glue is dry.



6

Apply two to three coats of black canvas primer. Make sure everything is covered by holding your project in direct sunlight. This will help you to see all the tiny holes and spaces you might have missed.



7

Once everything is black and the primer is dry, you can start dry-brushing. Dip a thick round brush into silver paint.

Wipe most of the paint off on a paper towel. The brush should be relatively dry. Lightly brush over the birdcage cut outs until they are silver.



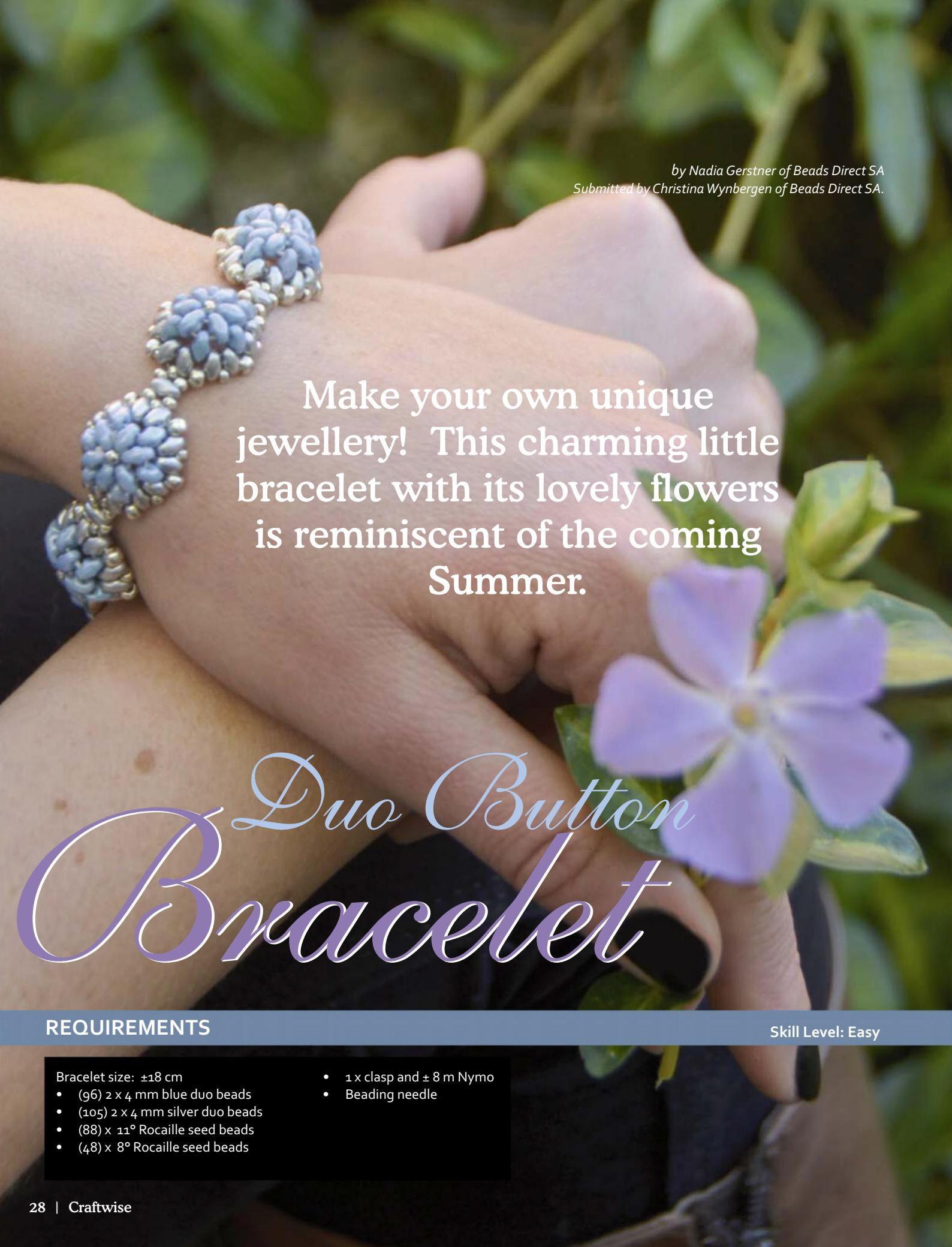
8

Now dry-brush the rest of the items with gold paint.



Once you are finished with the gold, add a dash of copper only here and there. When dry, insert your photo.





by Nadia Gerstner of Beads Direct SA  
Submitted by Christina Wynbergen of Beads Direct SA.

Make your own unique jewellery! This charming little bracelet with its lovely flowers is reminiscent of the coming Summer.

# Duo Button Bracelet

## REQUIREMENTS

Skill Level: Easy

Bracelet size: ±18 cm

- (96) 2 x 4 mm blue duo beads
- (105) 2 x 4 mm silver duo beads
- (88) x 11° Rocaille seed beads
- (48) x 8° Rocaille seed beads
- 1 x clasp and ± 8 m Nymo
- Beading needle

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Use a comfortable length Nymo and thread the needle. Leave a short tail which will be sewn away later.

2

Pick up 6 x blue duo beads, make a knot and go through these same beads again; this will form a circle. Pick up 1 x 11° Rocaille and pass the needle through the duo on the opposite side. This Rocaille should be in the centre of the "button". Step up, go through the top hole, of the same duo.

3

Pick up 1 x blue duo bead, pass the needle through the top hole of the next duo. Repeat till you have picked up a total of 6 x blue duo beads. Step up, go through the top hole of the first duo, added in this row.

4

Pick up 2 x silver duo beads. Pass the needle through the top hole of the next duo. Repeat this step five times. Step up by going through the top hole of the first duo added in this row.

5

Pick up 1 x 11°, go through the next duo. Pick up 1 x 8°, go through the next duo. Repeat this step, alternating the 11°'s and the 8°'s, till the end. Sew through the "button" in a zig zag pattern and cut the tails off.

6

Create a total of 8 of these "buttons", stitch these together by passing the needle through a silver duo (with an 11° next to it), pick up 1 x 11°, 1 x silver duo and 1 x 11°. Pass the needle through an 11° from your next "button". Pick up 1 x 11°, pass the needle through the second hole of the silver duo, pick up 1 x 11° and pass the needle through the 11° of the 1st "button" situated next to the duo where you have started. Make a few knots in between to secure your work. Pass the needle through some beads till you reach the opposite side of the "button" to add the next.

7

Add your clasp. No further embellishment row is necessary. 



For any enquiries please phone:

012 345 5466

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# Books & things!

Tork Craft have put together this useful kit comprising a hole punch, an eyelet setter and 100 silver, gold and copper-coloured eyelets.

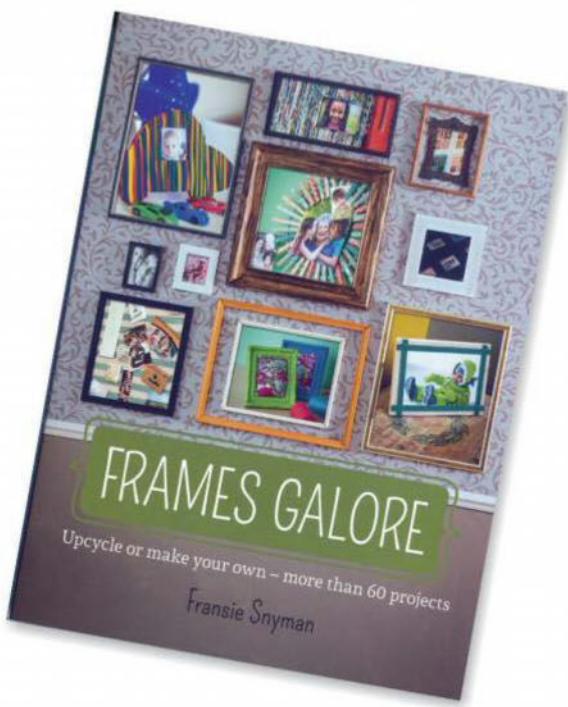
Ideal for both budding leather crafters and skilled leather workers, this kit gives you what you need to produce neat, professionally-set eyelets on belts, boxes and wherever else you may need them.

The sturdy chromed punch can punch neat holes in six sixes: 2.5 mm, 3 mm, 3.5 mm, 4 mm, 4.5 mm and 5 mm. The punches are sharp cutting edges, which ensures minimal effort to punch through leather and cardboard - very welcome especially if you need to punch many holes.

The eyelet setter is also made to last long and to set many eyelets accurately. Once you have used up the 100 in the kit, you can always order more!

Available from hardware stores throughout South Africa.

Trade enquiries to Vermont Sales:  
[www.vermontsales.co.za](http://www.vermontsales.co.za)



## FRAMES GALORE

## Sub title: Embossed craft metal projects for your home

Author: Fransie Snyman

Publisher: Metz Press

Softcover 128 pages

ISBN: 978-1-928201-72-4

Afrikaans version: “Rame by Dosyne”

This book is all about using coloured craft metal - decorating it by means of embossing, cutting out designs, adding further colour, taking away colour and filling in 3D designs and much more - to customise blanks and found objects for your home. You will learn more about the metal and supporting mediums, how to use the tools and familiarise yourself with several techniques, all of which can be applied in making more than 50 decorative and functional items. The original projects were designed and created specifically to show-case a variety of techniques and applications.

Projects range from beginners to advanced level and from quick ideas to masterpieces that will take longer to complete.

## MAKE YOUR HOME

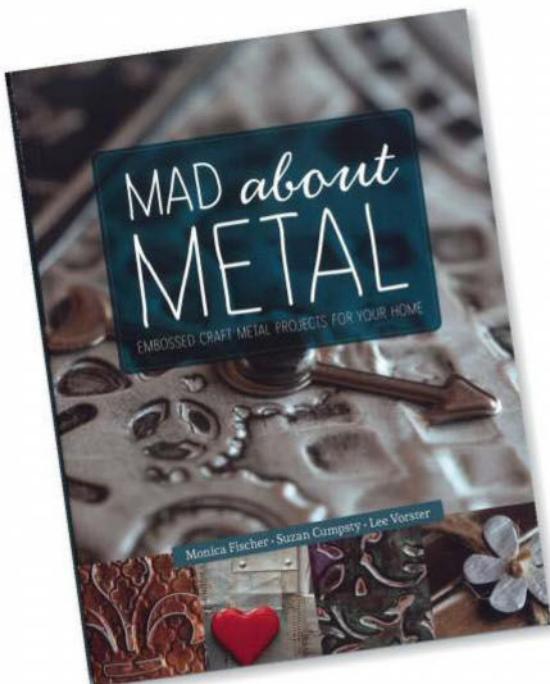
Authors: Germarie Bruwer & Margaux Tait  
Publisher: Penguin Random House  
ISBN: 9781432305130  
Afrikaans version: "Skep 'n Tuiste"

The authors love taking everyday items and giving them a twist. Upcycling and repurposing are key terms in their design lexicon. As they say: "Trends come and go, but you have to live in your home, so make it a comfortable space that can grow and change with you."

Through their innovative ideas, inspired use of materials and ability to reinvent ordinary objects, the authors present projects suitable for all craft and décor enthusiasts, from beginners to those with more advanced skills.

Whether you prefer to tackle projects with a handsaw and cordless drill, craft paper and scissors, or a sewing needle and delicate trim, there is something here for everyone.

From storage solutions to paint techniques, through knitted rugs and upholstered seats, to stamped tiles and outdoor seating, there are ideas to brighten and enliven your home and outdoor spaces – all showcased via beautiful photography, concise instructions and an appealing design.

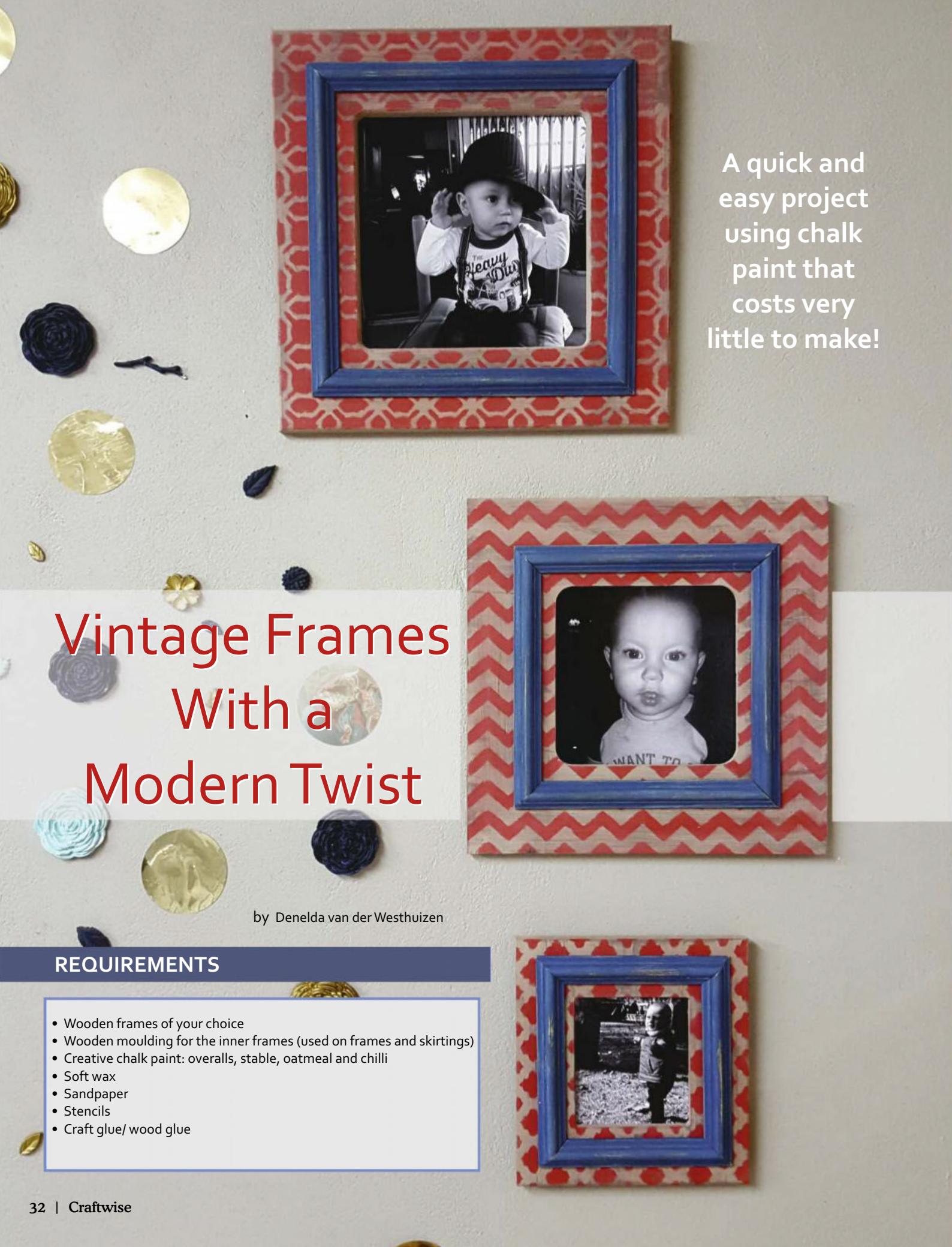


## MAD ABOUT METAL

Sub title: Embossed craft metal projects for your home  
Authors: Suzan Cumpsty, Lee Vorster, Monica Fischer  
Publisher: Metz Press  
Softcover 128 pages  
ISBN: 978-1-928201-74-8  
Afrikaans version: "Mal oor Metaal"

This book is all about using coloured craft metal - decorating it by means of embossing, cutting out designs, adding further colour, taking away colour and filling in 3D designs and much more - to customise blanks and found objects for your home. You will learn more about the metal and supporting mediums, how to use the tools and familiarise yourself with several techniques, all of which can be applied in making more than 50 decorative and functional items. The original projects were designed and created specifically to show-case a variety of techniques and applications.

Projects range from beginners to advanced level and from quick ideas to masterpieces that will take longer to complete.



A quick and easy project using chalk paint that costs very little to make!

# Vintage Frames With a Modern Twist

by Denelda van der Westhuizen

## REQUIREMENTS

- Wooden frames of your choice
- Wooden moulding for the inner frames (used on frames and skirtings)
- Creative chalk paint: overalls, stable, oatmeal and chilli
- Soft wax
- Sandpaper
- Stencils
- Craft glue/ wood glue



## INSTRUCTIONS

**1** Get your hubby or anyone handy with power tools to angle the wooden moulding to fit your frame.



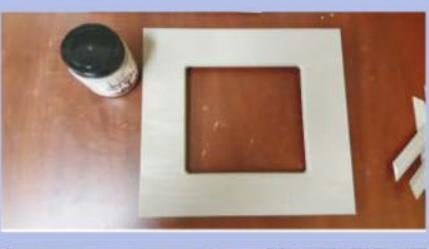
**2** Clean the frames. They must be completely dust free. Apply a coat of stable chalk paint and leave to dry.



**3** Paint the moulding strip - again also using stable chalk paint.



**4** When the frames are dry, paint a layer of oatmeal chalk paint. Allow to dry.




**5** When the paint is completely dry, sand down to reveal the underneath paint colour. Don't over-sand!




**6** Paint the moulding strip with a second colour chalk paint - we used overalls.



**7** Allow them to dry and then sand them down in the same fashion as the frames.



**8** Wipe down everything with a damp cloth to remove any dust.

**9** Place a stencil (design of your choice) onto the frame and stencil in the design using chilli coloured chalk paint. Leave to dry.






**10** Apply Soft Wax to the frame and moulding. The wax has to cure for at least 24 hours.



**11** Glue the moulding onto the frames with craft glue/ wood glue and allow to dry for another few hours.



**12** When dry, insert your photos and brag with your beautiful masterpieces.

*A classic, vintage look is easily achieved with chalk paint and a touch of Soft Wax.*

Supplies  
Creative Talents Craft Shop.  
Head Office Tel: 016 427 1030

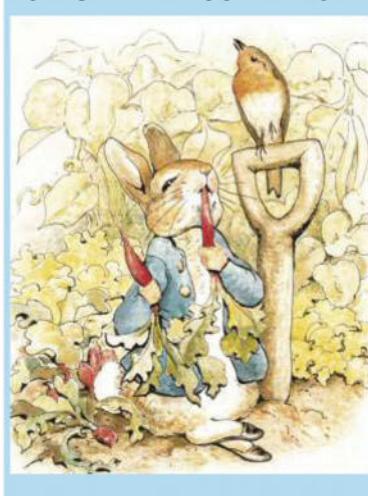
# Paint your own Peter Rabbit

by Lizelle van der Walt

"Peter lost one of his  
shoes among the cabbages,  
and the other shoe among  
the potatoes"

Beatrix Potter was an  
inspirational author and  
watercolourist. Her charming  
stories come to life in the many  
children's books she published  
during her lifetime. Perhaps  
the most beloved character of  
all is little Peter Rabbit. In this  
tutorial I will show you step by  
step how to paint one of the  
illustrations from "The Tale of  
Peter Rabbit".

## ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATION



## REQUIREMENTS

- 300 gsm Stretched watercolour paper
- Carbon paper
- Clutch pencil
- Waterproof Fineliners
- Palette
- Water
- Selection of design paintbrushes
- Extra cloth
- Paper towel
- Extra pieces of watercolour paper (for

- practicing on)
- Black acrylic drawing ink
- Watercolour paints

**1**

Use your carbon paper and a clutch pencil to trace the line image onto the stretched watercolour paper. Draw onto the traced lines with the fineliner (a fineliner is a special type of drawing pen). Make sure that your fineliner is waterproof. If it isn't it may start to smudge and bleed into your ink and watercolour paint later on.

**2**

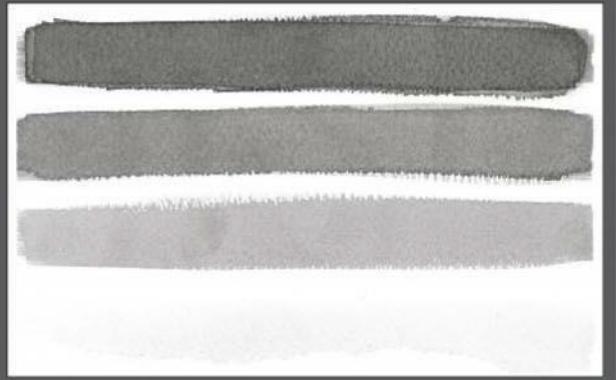
If you are unfamiliar with the use of a fineliner pen when drawing, familiarize yourself with it by drawing some doodles on a spare piece of paper. In this way you will get the feel of how to work with it.

Once you feel more comfortable, you can start to use the fineliner to draw over the lines that you have traced. Wait at least 30 minutes for the ink to dry before proceeding to the next step.



## NOTE

**If you are unfamiliar with drawing ink:** Use a palette and practice mixing the ink with various amounts of water to achieve different shades of grey. Paint these tones (tones refer to how light or dark something is) onto your spare piece of paper to see how the colour differs from the palette to the dried result on paper.

**3**

Once the drawn lines have dried you will be adding in tonal values with the ink. Keep your grayscale reference close by and refer to it often – try to get the shades of grey as similar to the reference image as possible.

### Helpful tips:

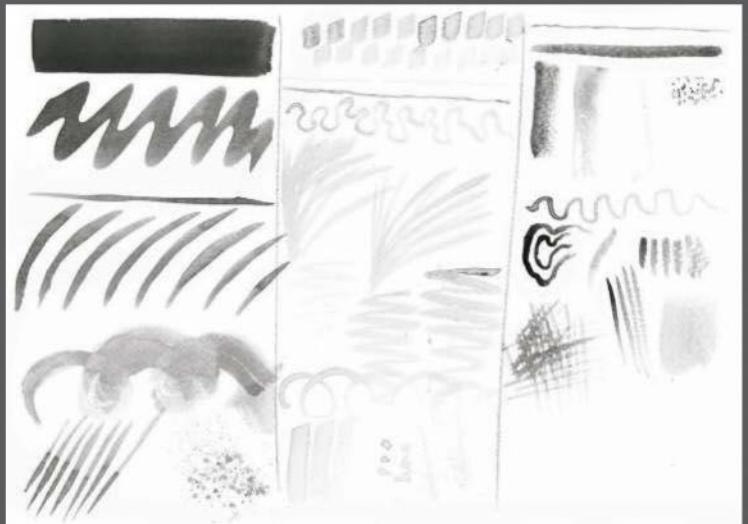
- When you are finished painting the tonal shades, place your artwork flat to dry. Try to put it in a room that is free from excessive airborne particles (dust, pollen, cat/dog hair etc.) as these may settle into the wet ink.
- Wait until the ink is completely dry. I suggest waiting at least 5 hours. Do not try to speed up the drying process

by using a hairdryer, heater or by placing the artwork in direct sunlight. This may cause the watercolour paper to dry unevenly which will cause it to warp and buckle.

- Once the ink is completely dry, you can start to adding colour to your artwork with your watercolour paint. Keep the Beatrix Potter colour reference image close by and try to match your colours as closely to the reference image as possible.
- Keep an extra strip of watercolour paper close by on which to test your colours before you place them on the artwork. The colour may look different in its dry state on the paper than when it is still wet on the palette or brush.

## NOTE If you are unfamiliar with design paintbrushes:

When painting with watercolour paint it is normally advisable to use watercolour paintbrushes, however, due to the amount of detail in this particular illustration I would suggest using design paintbrushes instead. Use the design paintbrushes to experiment making various brushstrokes on a spare piece of watercolour paper. Once you feel confident with the paintbrushes and drawing ink you can proceed to paint the various tonal values onto your watercolour paper.



- Also keep a piece of cloth close by. The cloth can be used to absorb some of the paint from the brush, if the brush is too wet for the stroke you wish to make.
- If you accidentally placed too much paint or water on the page, you can use your cloth to dry your brush (we call this making the brush thirsty and when you place your dry brush on the wet area your brush will absorb some of the water/paint. If the area is still too wet, you can dry your brush again and repeat as many times as necessary. This will only work as long as the paint is still wet, so you will have to work quickly.
- If you accidentally painted the wrong colour onto your image you can use the paper towel to lift up as much of the unwanted colour as possible. You will have to do this very quickly because once the paint is absorbed into the paper, it will be difficult to get all the colour off.
- When done, leave the artwork to dry overnight on a flat surface.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING COPYRIGHT:

Whenever you use another artist artwork as reference for practice, or inspiration for your own art, it is important to always give credit to the original artist. Failing to do so means that you are taking credit for someone else thoughts and ideas and this is artistic plagiarism.

If you plan to use any such artworks for commercial gain, you need to first contact and get permission from the artist him/herself. If the artist is deceased you need to contact the organisation that owns the rights to the intellectual property of the late artist.

Peter Rabbit is out of the copyright time frame and is now free for use in the public domain.

# Kids Art classes at Jimnettes

**Age 5 - 6**  
**Mon 15:00-15:45**

**Age 6 - 10**  
**Mon 16:00-17:00 OR**  
**Wed 14:00-15:00**

**Age 11 - 18**  
**Wed 15:30-17:00**

[lizelle.artteacher@gmail.com](mailto:lizelle.artteacher@gmail.com)

CW

Enlarge as required





# Edible Gardening September tomatoes

*The humble tomato plant traces its roots back to the time of the Aztecs around 700 A.D. Today it has found its way into almost every food garden in the world. There is just nothing to beat tomatoes in terms of taste, variety and satisfaction. In addition to this, they feature in just about every kind of cuisine, besides being a staple in salads and sandwiches. Tomatoes are easy to grow but they need more care than most other vegetables.*

*by Life is a Garden*

## Growing Tomatoes

Any sign of insect activity or disease affecting tomatoes needs to be dealt with immediately, otherwise the harvest is affected. Indeterminate varieties need pinching and staking and even determinate varieties can be staked if space is limited. Besides that, however, no pampering is required. This basic guide for growing tomatoes includes some specific, very helpful tips.

### Soil

Unlike other vegetables, tomatoes can be grown in the same place year after year, except if last season's plants were diseased. Tomatoes like a soil which has lime or high calcium, otherwise the fruit itself may split. It is also recommended that you add agricultural lime before planting into your beds. Tomatoes are heavy feeders and lots of compost should be dug into the soil. Raised or mounded beds improve drainage and aeration.

### Site and spacing

Tomatoes grow into substantial plants and should be spaced at least 60 to 80 cm apart. Rows should be about 1 m apart. They do best in positions that get full morning sun and afternoon shade. They can take more sun if there is good air movement otherwise they become susceptible to red spider mite.

### Planting

Plant tomatoes 'deeply': when transplanting out of a smaller pot or from a seed tray position the plant in the ground so that the lowest set of leaves is at soil level and press the soil down gently – this produces a sturdy plant. Planting deeply is particularly important if you plant tomatoes in pots - if the plant is not set deep enough, the roots seem to push themselves out of the potting soil.

### Succession planting

To avoid a glut of tomatoes, do two plantings with an eight week gap in between the first and the second. Two healthy tomato plants should meet the needs of a family of four. By planting two plants at the beginning of the season and



two plants eight weeks later you should have tomatoes right up until winter. Of course, you may want to grow one or two extra plants in case something goes wrong; you can always freeze the surplus (for later use in sauces, juice, pastes or purées) if all goes well. A suggestion for sowing seeds - do not plant all the seed at the same time or you will have to harvest them all at the same time. Rather spread your planting over a couple of weeks to ensure fresh harvesting ongoing direct from the vine.

### Watering

Tomatoes don't like water on their leaves; it can lead to fungus diseases like early or late blight, so watering by flooding around the plant is best. Create a 'dam' around each plant and mulch deeply to retain the water. Regular, deep watering is best and

when the plant starts to flower make sure that the soil remains consistently moist. Mulching is essential for retaining water and it keeps the roots cool as well.

### Feeding

If good compost is added to the soil before planting, then fertilising only becomes necessary when the plant starts flowering and fruiting. We would recommend feeding every 4 weeks with a fertiliser high in potassium, or 8:1:5 granular fertiliser.

### Pests

Unfortunately, whitefly, aphids, American bollworm and red spider mite are all attracted to tomatoes. The most destructive is American Bollworm because the larvae burrow into the fruit, causing it to rot from inside. Their presence can be

detected by the holes they make in the tomatoes. One needs to identify the pest or problem and then spray the correct insecticide for the correct pest. Visit your local garden centre for advice on what product/s to use for the type of infestation which has been identified.

## Diseases

Fungal disease can be prevented by watering carefully and making sure that the position in which your tomatoes grow has good air circulation. Long periods of rain do, however, create ideal conditions for fungal disease. If you want to use a fungicide then it's a good idea to go to your local garden centre for a

recommendation as to what works best in the area. At the end of the season, burn any fungus-infected plants that you are discarding – never add to a compost heap.

## Harvesting

Pick tomatoes when they just begin to change from orange to red. The longer you leave the fruit on, the more it stresses the plant. By picking at this stage you also extend the harvest period. Let the tomatoes finish ripening at room temperature, out of direct sunlight. Don't store them in your refrigerator because the cold temperature will cause them to lose flavour and texture.

## Varieties of tomatoes

There are 4 basic varieties of tomatoes (cherry, sauce or paste, medium to large, and large to extra-large varieties).

### Cherry variety:

This variety consists of huge vine types, medium bush types, dwarf bush types, and dwarf trailing types, and includes:

1. **Black Cherry** – Well flavoured and very productive black fruit. Vine type. Heirloom variety.
2. **Yellow Pear** – Prolific producer of small pear shaped, yellow fruit. Vine type. Best eaten as is, or in salads.
3. **Sweetie Red** – Prolific producer of small red fruit. Vine type. Best eaten as is, or in salads.
4. **Tumbling Tom Red** – A productive red cherry tomato. Trailing type for containers. F1.
5. **Tumbling Tom Red Stripe** – A productive red striped fruit. Trailing type for containers. F1.

### Sauce or paste variety:

These consist of different shapes and sizes, but are mostly tall vine types and are mostly red. Types include:

1. **Roma (Jam tomato)** – Oval shaped red fruit. Vine type. Used for making preserves and sauces.
2. **Thai Pink Egg** – Acidic pink tomatoes used for Asian cooking. Bush type. Good in containers. Heirloom variety.

### Medium to large tomatoes:

These vary in size, shape, colour and growth habit and include:

1. **Golden Jubilee** – An award winning medium sized Yellow/orange tomato. Very tasty. Vine type. Heirloom variety.
2. **Green Zebra** – produces masses of medium sized, light green, striped fruit that are very sweet. Vine type. Heirloom variety.
3. **Heinz** – A popular medium sized slicing tomato with red fruit. Vine type.
4. **Money Maker** – a popular medium sized red tomato. Good slicer. Vine type.
5. **Oxheart** – Large Red beefsteak type tomato. Vine type. Meaty flesh.

### Large to extra large varieties:

These, like the medium to large variety, vary in size, shape, colour and growth habit and include:

1. **Big Rainbow** – A very large Multi-toned tomato. Good slicer. Vine type. Heirloom variety.
2. **Purple Cherokee** – A large beefsteak type tomato. Meaty with great flavour. Dark purple fruit. Vine type. Heirloom variety.
3. **Black Krim** – A great tasting, meaty tomato. Fruit very dark purple. Vine type. Heirloom variety.
4. **Great White** – A large yellow/white tomato. Good as a slicer and in salads. Vine type. Heirloom variety.
5. **Pineapple** – A large, multi-coloured tomato. Meaty flesh with good flavour. Vine type. Heirloom variety.

## Roasted tomato and zucchini soup

*Try this fresh, zesty soup with delicious herb and onion bread today! Perfect for those in-between weather, rainy spring days.*

- 2kg Roma tomatoes
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 5-6 zucchini, roughly sliced
- 2 stalks celery, roughly chopped
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1/2 cup herbs (basil and oregano was used for this recipe)
- 2 tablespoons vegetable stock powder

Cut the tomatoes in half and place on a baking tray, cut side up. Sprinkle with olive oil and season with salt, pepper and sugar. Place in an oven at 150°C for 1 hour. Place all the other ingredients in a pan with 2 cups of water and simmer for 1/2 hour. Blend and set aside. Squeeze the juice out of the tomatoes using a potato press or a sieve, and add the juice to the other blended vegetables. Check seasoning and serve hot with herb bread.

## Herb and onion bread

- 1 cup self-raising flour
- 1 cup Nuttywheat
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 cup grated cheese (use a strong cheese like Gruyere)
- 1/2 cup herbs – thyme, basil, oregano, and parsley were used for this recipe
- 1/2 cup plain yoghurt
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup warm water
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 tablespoon butter
- Salt and pepper

Place the chopped onion in a pan with a tablespoon of butter and sauté until the onion is soft. In one bowl add the dry ingredients: flours, grated cheese (save some for the top), baking powder, salt and pepper. In another bowl add the wet ingredients: yoghurt, eggs, herbs (de-stalked and chopped), warm water and cooked onion. Mix the two together until all the ingredients are well mixed, but do not over mix. Place in a greased loaf tin and bake for 50 minutes at 180°C. Serve hot with lashings of butter.



# Hop to it

By Ursula Janke  
The Clay Club  
Tel 012 803 0772



## REQUIREMENTS

- Wooden board cut to 360 x 360 mm
- Blackboard paint
- 3 grey tiles, 3 white tiles
- 100 blue 10 x 10 mm tiles
- 6 white lace imprinted tiles
- 2 animal eyes and black heart nose
- 2 Delft flowers and 2 leaves
- 3 white stems



## INSTRUCTIONS

1 Trace the bunny onto the wood base .

2 Place inserts down according to the pattern, cutting the stems to fit onto the board.



3 Cut the lace tiles into pieces to fit nicely in the bunny shape. Take care to get them as neatly fitting as possible. The grout also gives you a flow line. I also use a sanding block to get the tiles nice and neat.



4 Cut the grey and white tiles to fit round the eyes and mouth to give a shadow effect.



5 Tile the border.



6 Grout your project, then wait 24 hours before you paint with the blackboard paint.

7 **Grouting:**

Empty most of the bag of grout into a container and slowly add water, stirring all the while till you have the consistency of toothpaste. A good indication of the right consistency is when you stop stirring: if the mixture retains peaks and valleys – add more water. If it immediately settles – add more grout. The right balance is if the grout settles sluggishly.

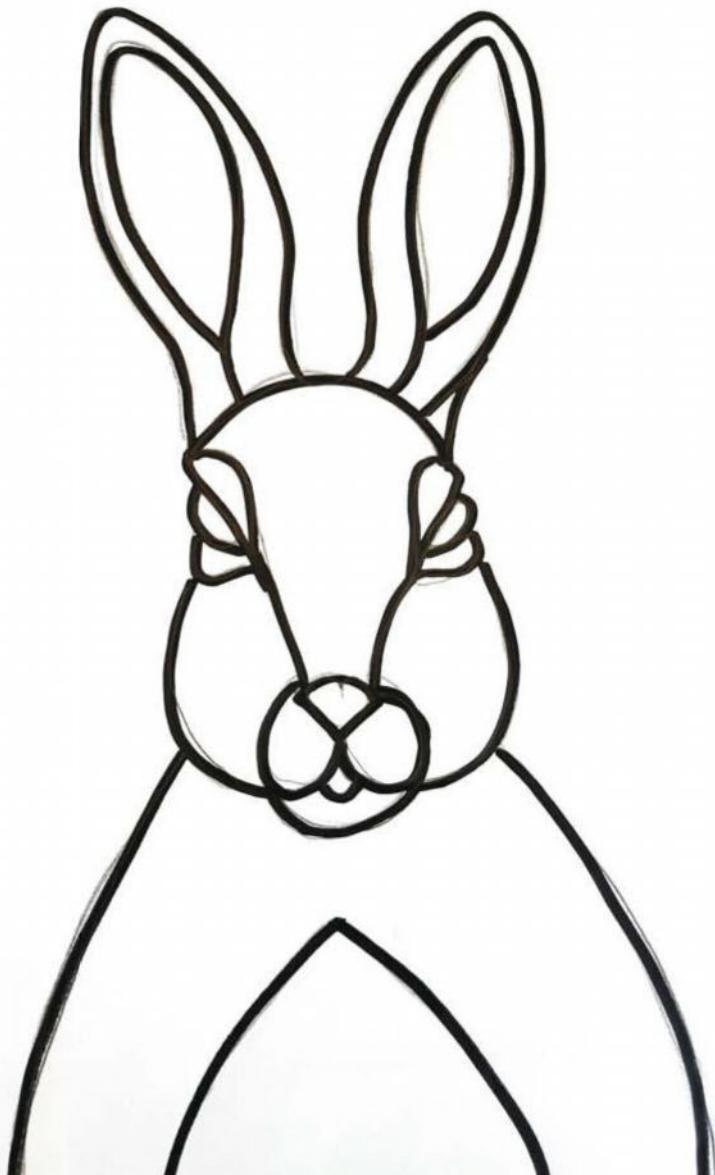
Liberally smear the grout over the surface of the tiles, ensuring that you force grout between all the tiles and those on the edge of the mosaic. Take a little grout with your finger and rub between the tiles of the border and the base all around the edge to ensure that you have filled the little gaps.

Using a spatula, remove as much of the excess grout as possible. Sprinkle a little dry grout over the entire mosaic and leave to dry for a few minutes.

Using a scrunched up newspaper, clean in a circular motion, removing all extra grout. If you find a pothole or crater, rub a little grout into the gap until it is filled. Leave the project to dry for 30 min, remove any remaining grout with your fingernail or damp cloth.

Should a tile dislodge during grouting, re-apply glue to the tile and reposition it, gently filling the sides and surrounds with grout to repair the gap.

CW



# KNITTING CATCHES UP WITH ME

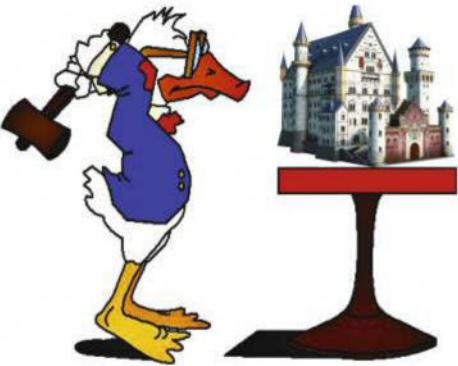
by Sue Human

So, I have a new way to un-friend someone that Facebook hasn't thought of yet. And it all begins with me having a self-induced allergy to any needles of the sewing and knitting variety.

Picture an innocent 7th birthday party. Everything looks all festive and sufficiently sugared and ballooned. Right? The gifts start piling up and they look so beautifully ribboned, promising all sorts of treats and treasures.

All my dutiful, good, kind, observant, lovely friends have bestowed upon my daughter just the kind of things she loves.

And just the kind of things that perhaps they would love for their children. Puzzles, books, age appropriate 'how to' kits that require little or no adult input.... No noisy annoying toys, no near impossible '3-D build-its' that require an engineer to decipher the destruction manual, nothing that requires batteries or downloads.



Until we get to a rather inconspicuous looking gift bag. Rather plain, you know

the one, with a little tag on it that wishes happy birthday to a child you have never heard of? Ok so we all recycle gift bags, it's recycling right? But at least remember to remove the tag. This tag was so old and crumpled that the long ago recipient is possibly now nursing their own children. And inside is my worst nightmare. KnitACritter!!

A gasp and a panicked shriek escape me. My daughter on the other hand cannot contain her squealing excitement. I nervously look around at the other moms and immediately I know who is the guilty culprit. My ex-lovely, ex-friend, Kimmie. The one whose husband has spent the last two Christmas days bent over one of those aforementioned 3-D build-it puzzles that I bestowed on her son. And now it is payback time.

I can just picture her driving home with a wicked smile on her face, singing loudly to her 80's music and feeling revengefully satiated. And to make



matters worse, my child has every knitted creature the lovely old ladies at the wool shop have ever made. She is always challenging them with new requests. Her fascination is so intense that I had to change our shopping habits to avoid the wool shop.

So, I do what any other terrified Mom would do, I hide 'the package' deep down at the bottom of the cupboard and gently persuade Millah to throw herself into all the other treasures.

And then one day my build-it sins catch up with me. Having a child who never forgets is lovely when you leave your shopping list at home or forget the address of the party you are late for. Not so lovely when she searches her room for her beloved KnitACritter months down the line. It is time to face my fears. Teaching your child that anything is possible is bound to come back and bite you in the proverbial crafty butt!

And so we begin. About two minutes in, we look up at each other and in unison yell "Dad" and "Peter"! In rushes our Hero. Wedding vows are wedding vows after all. And his definitely included in-all-things-crafty.

I am very grateful for his engineering degree, his mother (a small town teacher and mom of 5 – if you didn't wash your socks for school, you went without, and gasp! horror! you had to make your own



school lunch) and the army. The result is that my husband has many skills - including knitting.

Yet another rescue. Check out our very first attempts. Be kind now people. Millah is only 7 and I was last forced to knit when I was 11 years old – a home economics Pink Panther project that my lovely Granny eventually finished for me when she saw my despair.

We had to practice a bit first. I grabbed a bunch of hand spun wool which is thick and thin at different points (thank you my dear friend who works in the wool industry and gifted me with it a while ago) and the first needles I could see, which happened to be extremely thin.



Sadly my lovely granny was not around to tell me the most important thing about knitting – keep it loose! I was determined though and after knitting a sufficient amount of practice rows, I cast off (yes - see I am already getting the lingo down) - and

then immediately started a real project...See what I got up to below!

CW



I wanted to try a beaded lampshade for a lamp I had lying around that needed a make-over. Again, being impatient enthusiastic me, I had to start immediately. Which also meant that I had to use what I had at home (it was late at night). I was very excited to do some beading again.

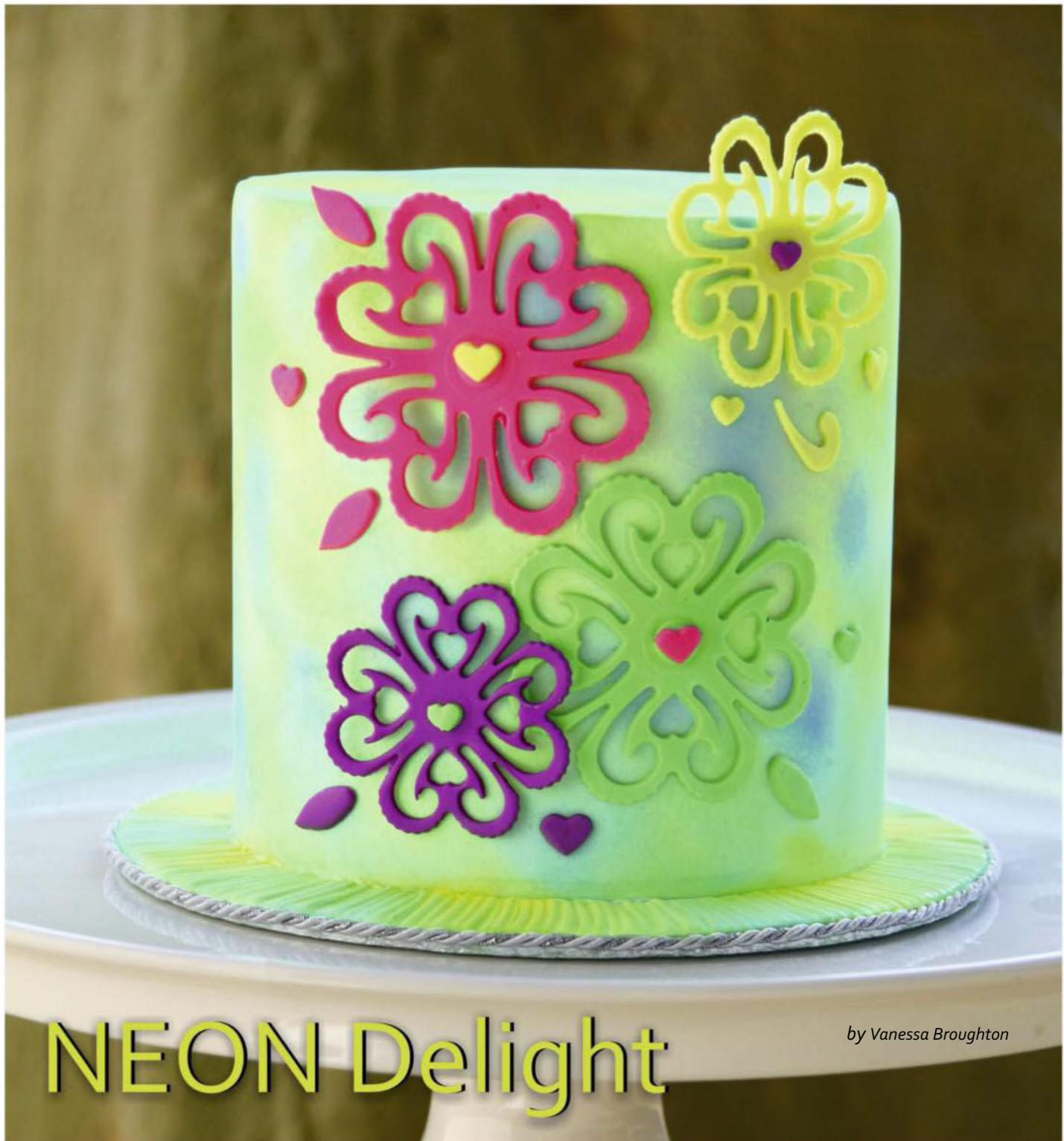
And so began my next near impossible project. I really do know how to pick them. Knitting with 7 mm elasticated gut and rather large beads was a great learning curve. At least I used thicker needles this time and had learnt to keep it loose! I love it, even though it was a bit tricky. I will also say though, that I think I got lucky with the elasticated gut. It is quite forgiving. Check it out on page 72.

I am not sure where this new crafty hobby will take me, but I am definitely feeling challenged. I'm not sure I will move to jerseys and gloves, but I am looking out for interesting and different knitting projects.

I hope you enjoyed reading about my knitting and happy knitting to all of you!

Craftaliciously, Sue





# NEON Delight

by Vanessa Broughton

## REQUIREMENTS

- Pre-made cake - double barrel (2x high)
- Cake board – 5 cm larger than cake size
- White fondant
- Rolkem neon colours:
  - Voila
  - Astral Pink
  - Stellar Green
  - Minion Magic
  - Comet Blue
- Pallet
- Clean and dry sponges
- Edible glue
- Cutting board
- Ruler / tape measure
- Rolling pin
- Sugar smoothers
- Mexican pad
- CMC
- Fantasy flower cutters
- Cornstarch / icing sugar

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Cover your cake with white fondant. Because of the height I suggest you use the wrap around technique described below.

2

There are various methods of covering a double barrel (extended height) cake. I prefer the following method which I hope you find helpful!

Take two cakes and sandwich together with a Ganache filling (decadent cream filling).

Roll out the fondant. Cut a straight edge to your fondant lengthwise (this will go on the bottom edge of the cake). Roll around a rolling pin, with the straight edge at the end of the rolling pin



Wrap around the cake with the straight edge at the bottom of the cake.



3

Fold top of the fondant down onto the top of the cake, making sure you don't get pockets of air trapped under your fondant.

Use the heat from your hands to smooth and buff out the join, smoothing the fondant as you usually would.

Finish smoothing with the sugar smoothers then buff your cake.

4

Using the various Rolkem colours and a sponge start adding dust spots all over the cake. Start with one colour, then the next until you are happy with the effect.

Use colours sparingly as you can rather build up the level of brightness.



5

Cut a strip of fondant and cover the edge of your cake board. Using a dowel stick create and rippling effect all the way around the edge.



Dust the edge in the same way you did with the cake.

6

Colour small amounts of fondant using each of the following colours – Stellar green, voila, minion magic and astral pink .

Add a little bit of CMC to the piece you are working with. Roll out the first colour quite thinly.

Place the flower cutter in the hole on the Mexican pad.

Place rolled out fondant on top of the cutter.

Using your rolling pin, roll over the fondant, cutting out the shape of your flower.

Clean edges and remove from cutter. Set aside to dry. This might need to dry out overnight. Do the same for all the other colours.



7

When dry, attach them to the dusted cake with either a small amount of royal icing or edible glue.

### Contact details:

Vanessa Broughton  
vanessa@hostesspro.co.za  
083 456 1903

### Materials/tools available from:

Hostess Pro Sugar Craft –  
[www.hostesspro.co.za](http://www.hostesspro.co.za)



# POMEGRANATES

"A LAUGHING POMEGRANATE BRINGS THE WHOLE GARDEN TO LIFE. KEEPING COMPANY OF THE HOLY MAKES YOU ONE OF THEM"

Rumi - Iranian Poet

## REQUIREMENTS

- Any interesting frame (mine was an old tray with a mirror base)
- Canvas board cut to size
- Glue gun and glue sticks

### Americana acrylic paint used:

- Lamp black
- Burnt sienna
- Taffy cream
- White
- Soft black
- Charcoal grey
- Burnt umber
- Buttermilk
- Black plum
- Butterscotch
- True ochre
- Calico red
- Alizarin crimson
- Primary orange
- Tangelo orange

### Americana stencils used:

- Old french script

### Brushes used:

- Flat nylons: round
- Stipple - Deerfoot
- Filbert for woodgrain effect
- Flat for background

### Miscellaneous:

- White pencil
- White transfer paper and stylus (you can use a pen)
- Canvas gel medium
- Shimmering silver
- Americana light satin varnish

by Ronel Swart  
email: [ronelsart@gmail.com](mailto:ronelsart@gmail.com)



## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Mix soft black with gel medium and basecoat the canvas. Paint a second coat when dry.

Transfer the pattern onto the black canvas.



Paint the pomegranates with taffy cream (always under-paint red with yellow), and the table with burnt sienna. Stencil in the background text, placing the stencil over the fruit and stencilling in and around the objects. I mixed black into the silver to tone the silver down a bit.



2

Start painting in the table, working from the back to the front. Use the filbert brush to streak in a woodgrain. You can also thin some buttermilk and black paint to enhance the woodgrain effect. Shade with black plum.

Depending on the effect you want, charcoal grey and burnt umber also work well for the woodgrain effect.



3

Starting with the pomegranates. I used black plum at the bottom for shadows, butterscotch and true ochre for the lighter areas and calico red for the brighter red areas. Work in some orange colour.



After applying a second layer of colour leave the pomegranates and paint in the seeds.

Highlight the open fruit with butterscotch and white. Outline the pips with black plum.

Paint the pips with a 1:1 ratio of alizarin crimson and cadmium orange. Highlight with white.

Going back to the pomegranates. Use the white on the pips as an indication of how bright you want your fruit to be. Build up colour with the reds, oranges and ochre. Once you are satisfied with the results, use the Deerfoot brush to stipple in ochre and white for light. Your hand must be very

light during this process.



4

Outline the fruit here and there with some white. Paint in the shadows with black plum underneath the fruit and pips. When dry, seal the painting with Americana Light Satin Varnish.

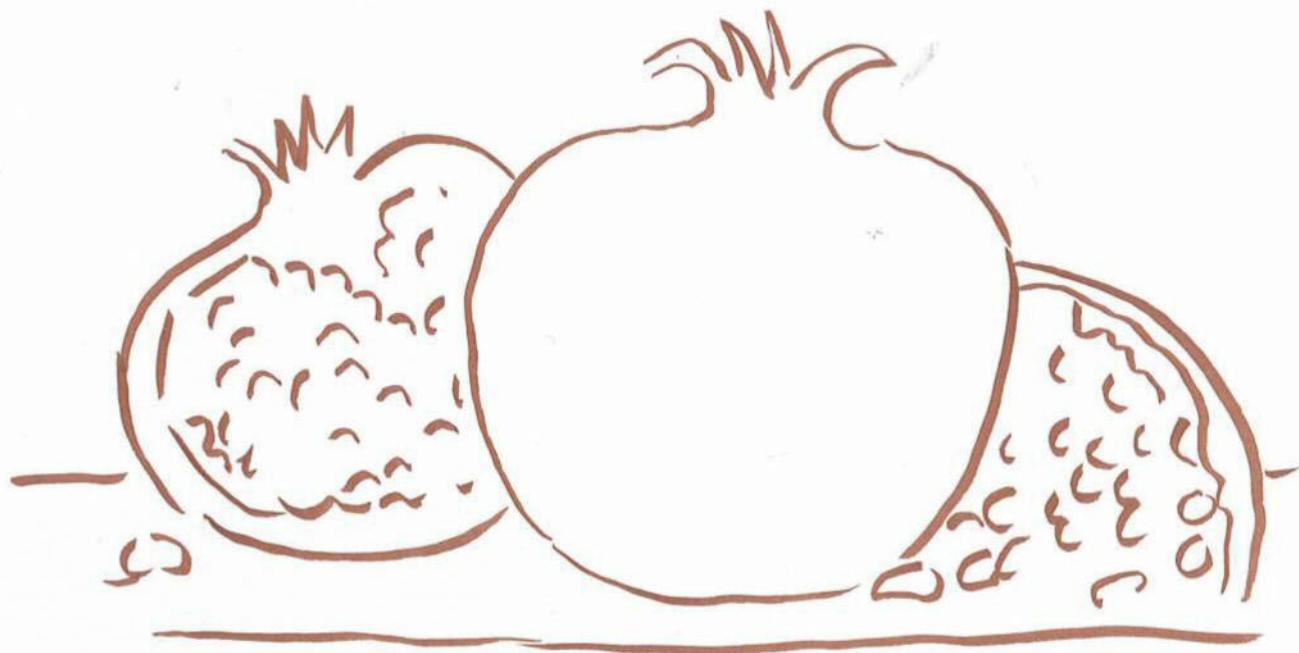
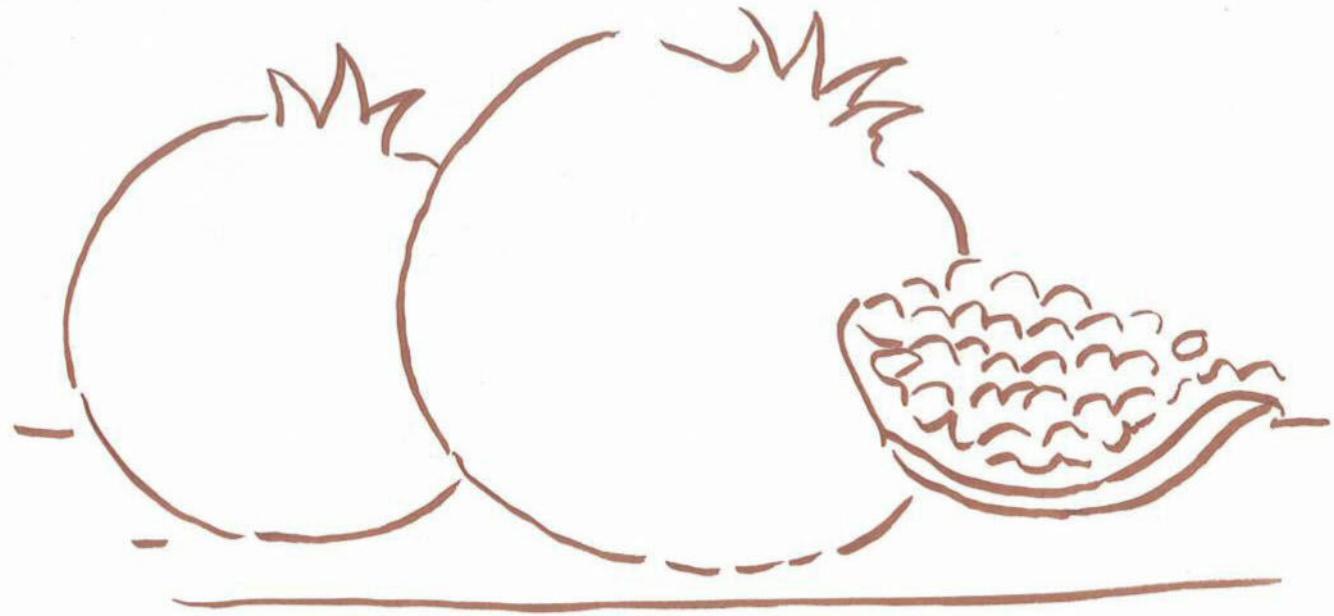
Using the glue gun, glue the canvas onto the base of the tray or frame.

*"If every seed grew, there'd be no room in the world for anything but pomegranate trees"*

CW



## PATTERN



# Moon Drops

*I love the moon, don't you? I have seen a lot of stained glass creations that include the moon as well as some that have water drops in them, so I decided to bring the two together and share my latest project with you that I have entitled "Moon Drops". This would make a lovely gift, or décor item for a girl's bedroom. Just imagine how pretty it would look catching the sun hanging by a window!*

## REQUIREMENTS

### Tools:

- Glass cutter
- Grozier pliers
- Glass grinder
- Cutting board – ceiling board off cuts are great as they are not too hard.
- Prestik
- Soft cloth
- Safety glasses (if you do not wear specs)
- Sharpie pen
- Paintbrushes or flux brushes
- 100w soldering iron
- Soldering Iron controller. Some irons come with an internal thermostat, but these are more expensive. You can buy a separate controller if your iron does not have an internal thermostat. Soldering irons reach  $\pm 370$  °C, and uncontrolled, your glass may crack from the heat.
- Lathekin
- Newspapers

- A solution of Sunlight Liquid diluted in water to clean your project.
- Methylated spirits
- Latex gloves for applying patina if you have sensitive skin. Some people get slightly itchy fingers if they get patina on their hands.
- Furniture polish

### Materials:

- Glass. I took out a piece of glass I bought a long time ago, that I didn't need at the time, but knew I would find a project for one day, and this is it. I used glass in blue, purple, green and white.
- Copper foil (1/4 inch – black back)
- Flux
- Solder (60/40)
- Clear lacquer spray
- Decorative cord or string. You can also use ribbon if you like. I used shiny silver

cord for this project.

- 16 Jump rings to solder to your moon and drops



## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Cut the template out. Secure the pattern pieces to the glass with Prestik and draw around them with the sharpie.

Remember to place the pattern pieces right side down on the wrong side of the glass.



2

Score the glass with the cutter and use a running pliers or Grozier pliers to break the glass where you have scored. Cut 7 drops to attach to the moon.



3

You now need to grind each of the pieces making sure they are the same size and shape as the templates you used to cut them out.



4

Once you have finished grinding, you can foil each of the pieces with  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch black back foil. It's important that the pieces are all clean and thoroughly dry. So clean and dry them off with a soft cloth before you begin to foil. It's much easier to work upside down. You need to get the glass in the centre of the foil. Hold the sticky side (the black side) face up and place the glass onto it. Press flat with your thumb then fold down over the sides of the glass.

Work in small sections to ensure the foil fits tightly once you are done.

Try not to go all the way around your glass piece and only then flatten the foil, as it will be too loose. Iron out the creases and crinkles in the foil with the lathekin.



6

Tin all the edges of the moon as well as all the edges of the moon drops.

**Tinning:** Paint flux over the copper foil and melt solder along the foil. When you are finished all the copper foil will be silver.



5

Place the moon pieces back onto the template. Now you can solder them together. Paint flux on the joins, then spot solder along each join.

**Spot soldering:** Just melt little blobs along the joins. Melt the blobs of solder into the joins to create a seam, joining the pieces together.



7

Let's solder the jump rings into place, 2 near the top of the moon and 3 around the bottom of the moon (where you will tie the drops). Each drop will also need its own jump ring soldered to it.

The drops that will hang directly under the moon and the drops attached to those need jump rings on the top of the drop as well as the bottom. The last drops only need a jump ring soldered to the top of them.



8 Once you have finished soldering all the seams and tinning, wash the moon and drops off with a sponge and the soapy solution. Dry thoroughly. Take a soft cloth and methylated spirits and wipe the moon and drops down to remove any excess oiliness not washed away with the soapy solution.



9 Lay all the pieces onto newspaper. Using clear lacquer spray, spray both sides of the moon and drops. Spray one side and leave that to dry, before turning over and spraying the other side.

10 Once all the pieces are dry, you can use your decorative cord or ribbon to join up the chains of drops (I put 2 drops per chain on the outside and 3 in the chain hanging from the middle at the bottom of my moon).

Attach the drop chains to the jump rings you have soldered to the bottom of your moon.

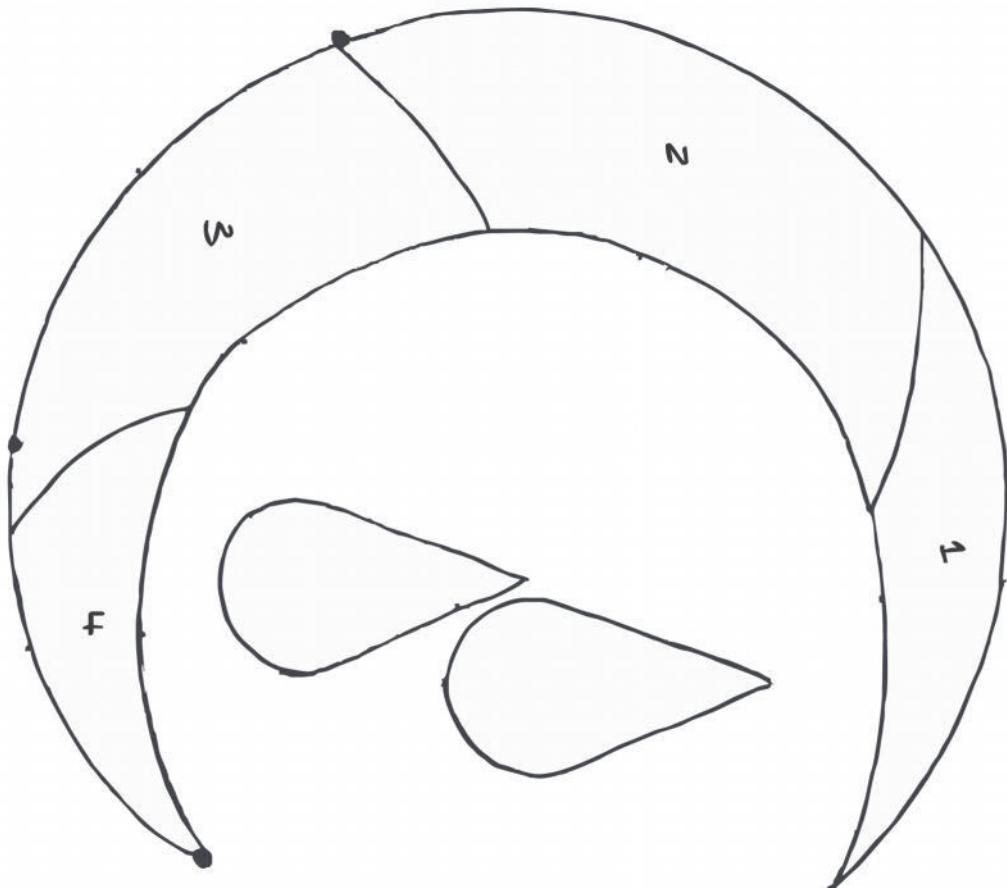


I hope you enjoyed making this and look forward to sharing my next project with you!

CW



Classy Glass Art Studio PE  
041 369 0004/ 082 782 2381  
Jacqui@classyglass.co.za  
Www.classyglass.co.za



Enlarge A4 to A3  
(160 mm x 185 mm)



Recycled Art:

# Flower Project

If you are lucky enough to have bought a new fridge, dishwasher or washing machine, don't throw away the packaging. These appliances are normally surrounded by protective polystyrene coverings for safe transportation. In this project the frame cut-outs weren't exactly symmetrical so when the two frames were put together, the back one showed as an edging, giving the 'frame' extra depth. The 'flowers' were made from plastic bottles and packaging, egg trays and bottle trays. The leaves were made from egg trays, and the scroll design from string.

## REQUIREMENTS

by Yvonne Watson

- Polystyrene 'tray' packaging
- Plastic cold drink bottles in different sizes
- Cardboard egg trays
- Cardboard bottle or cup trays
- Plastic packaging (the kind that biscuits are packaged in)
- Gel medium
- Craft paint (black and a variety of metallic colours)
- Hard varnish
- Paintbrushes
- Scissors
- String
- Stencil glue
- Needle
- Pins
- Wire

# INSTRUCTIONS

## 1 Frame:

Glue the two polystyrene frames together with gel medium.

Paint the frame with a layer of gel medium so that the paint will adhere well and also gives a layer of protection.

Using black craft paint, basecoat the frames. Don't worry about dents and nicks in the polystyrene as this adds extra texture to the project. You do need to make sure that no white areas show through.

Craft paint is perfectly safe to use on polystyrene and won't damage the surface.

Dry-brush various colours of metallic craft paint over the frames to give a metallic finish.

Dry-brushing requires minimal paint on the brush and light brushing over the black base paint to pick up the texture of the polystyrene.

Layering different metallic colours over each other gives a rugged metallic finish.

The back of the frames were left black to add extra depth.



## 2 Leaves:

Using the sides of the egg tray make the leaves. Try to flatten the egg tray as best you can.

Using the bigger areas of the squashed egg tray, cut the shape of a leaf using scissors.

Basecoat with black craft paint and dry-brush with metallic craft paint.

Place onto the frame and glue in place with gel medium.



## 3 Scroll work:

Basecoat the string with any of your metallic craft paints.

Using stencil glue to draw curly scroll shapes between the leaves on the frame. Wait for the stencil glue to dry tacky.

Cut strings to lengths necessary to cover the tacky scroll shapes. Place onto tacky areas and press in place. When dry, dry-brush the scrolls with metallic craft paint.

Paint a layer of hard varnish over the whole frame to protect the paint.



## 4 Flowers:

### Plastic cold drink bottles:

Cut the plastic cold drink bottle into sections: Bottle cap, neck, top, middle and bottom.

Using the bottom section, cut into the indented lines and then shape the petals of the flower.

The top section can also be cut into a

flower shape. This can then be placed into the bottom section to create a two-layered flower.

Paint a layer of gel medium over the flower to allow the paint to adhere to the plastic.

Paint a layer of black craft paint over the shapes. Allow to dry, then dry-brush with metallic craft paint colours.

Use the neck or the bottle cap as the centre. Paint with gel medium before painting with craft paint.

Coat with a layer of hard varnish for protection.

Try cutting different shapes of flowers for different effects.

For a more colourful project, use different colours of paint as the base coat or for dry-brushing on the flowers.

To get the curly effect, experiment with heating the edges of the petals with a candle flame. The heat melts the plastic quite quickly so be careful not to hold the plastic over the flame for too long. As soon as the plastic curls take it off the flame.



### Plastic packaging:

Have a look at the packaging for biscuits etc. Some of them have lovely round bases that make interesting flower centres.

Cut the round base and sides out of the packaging using scissors. Cut the sides into strips, up to the centre, in either long or short strips and then shape the strips into points.

Paint the plastic with gel medium and then basecoat with black craft paint.

Dry-brush with metallic craft paint.

Paint with a layer of hard varnish for protection.



### Egg box roses:

Use four egg holders, cutting the petal shapes smaller with each. The centre piece was cut from the edge of the egg tray and curled.



Basecoat with black craft paint onto the petals and dry-brush with metallic craft paint.

Assemble the flower by placing the small petal into the larger one and then into the next larger one. Glue together with gel medium. Paint with hard varnish.



### Cardboard bottle/ cup trays:

The shapes at the base of these trays just lend themselves nicely to this project.

Cut the base off the tray.

Basecoat with black craft paint and dry-brush with metallic paint.

When dry, paint with hard varnish.



5

### Assembly:

Position the various flowers where you wish them to hang in each frame.

Cut the wire to lengths required for each flower.

Make a hole into the flower with a needle and thread the wire through. Twist the wire to secure it on the flower.

Twist the wire around the pin and push the pin in place on the frame. Use a dollop of gel medium to secure the pin. The flowers will hang from the frame and move in the breeze.

Because this project is very lightweight, it can easily be hung on a nail with no extra hanging wire needed.

**Alternatives:** Instead making flowers from packaging, use CDs. Paint the CD with glass paint and add old jewellery and charms as decoration.

I hope you enjoyed making this unique piece of art from recycled products. This is a super project to do with youngsters in the school holidays!

CW

Contact Yvonne at Creative Papercraft:

011 763 5682

cpapercraft@gmail.com

www.creativepapercraft.co.za



# WORDSEARCH

111

## GUIDELINES:

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I want to introduce the Deerfoot brush to you: It has rounded bristles that are cut at an angle, just like a deer's foot. It's a magical brush and so versatile. We're going to use this brush to paint a bear...

# Stippling Teddy Bears

## REQUIREMENTS

- Deerfoot paintbrush
- Americana Acrylic Paint:  
French mauve  
Gooseberry pink  
Natural buff  
Sable brown
- Buttermilk  
White  
Soft black  
Teal green  
Mulberry
- Some toothpicks
- Optional: Dot stencil



by Ronel Swart  
email: [ronelsart@gmail.com](mailto:ronelsart@gmail.com)



## INSTRUCTIONS

To start with, draw a circle and add a deeper colour at the centre and a lighter colour on the outside. Practise blending the two colours without them becoming one colour. Then practise stippling in a circle by turning the brush. Now for the teddy bear...

In this project the Deerfoot brush should be used to create a fluffy texture, so be careful not to over stipple. Add the lighter colours to the outside.

Try using the "toe" of the brush. Dip it in the paint, not too much, hold the brush straight and stipple.

Stipple the teddy from the back to the front. First do the body, arms, feet, ears and then the face and the nose.

In the background I used French mauve, and stencilled in using the Dot stencil.

For the baby bear I used Gooseberry pink and natural buff. For the mother bear I used sable brown and buttermilk, with some white.

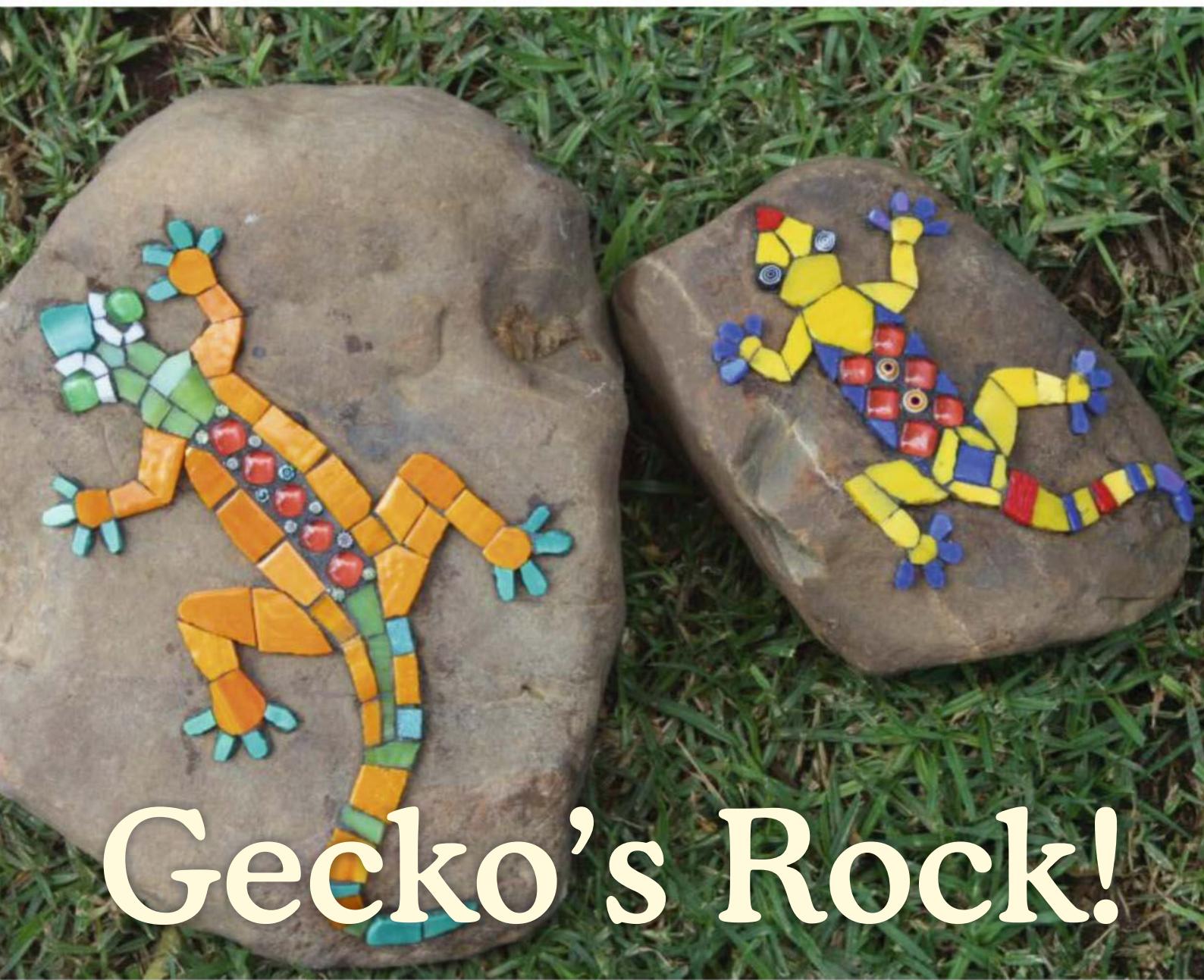
For the eyes and noses I used soft black. Use toothpicks to position the noses and eyes.

For the garden I used teal green, with mulberry for the daisies.

Practise, practise and practise! You can use this brush for topiary trees, bushveld trees, and to add light to fruits and other objects. The possibilities are endless!

CW





# Gecko's Rock!

*Create these quick little garden décor items using found rocks and left over mosaic tiles. These are great as gifts for new home owners or just to brighten up your own garden.*

## REQUIREMENTS

by Mosaic Arts

- Flat rocks
- A selection of glass mosaic tiles of your choice
- Millefiori
- Dewdrops
- Silicone
- Masking tape
- Tile cutters/nippers
- Stanley knife
- Scissors

- Paper and pencil
- Masking tape

Contact Mosaic Arts on  
012 - 804 7392  
info@mosaicarts.co.za  
www.mosaicarts.co.za

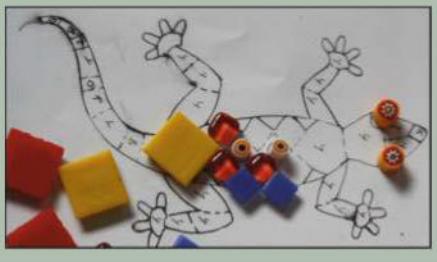


## INSTRUCTIONS

**1** Enlarge the gecko design to the size you want and cut out.

**2** Decide what colour tiles you will be using.

Place the colours onto the paper design until you are satisfied with the colour combination.



**3** Place the drawing on the rock. Draw the shape onto the rock with a pencil then draw in the rest of the design.



**4** Using tile cutters or nippers where necessary, start cutting each tile.

Stick the tiles onto the rock with silicone.

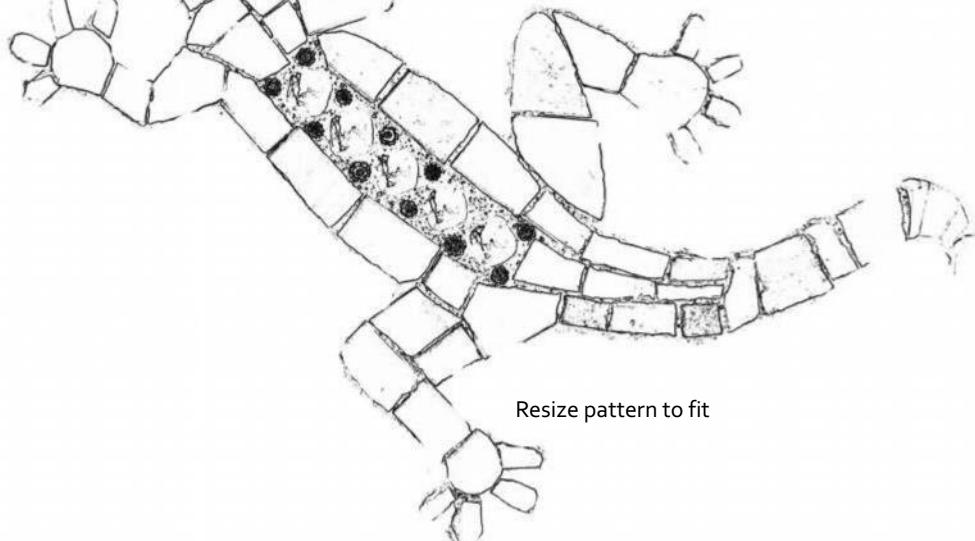


**5** Let the glue dry completely.

### GROUT

Mix the grout with water to a smooth paste. Using a grouting squeegee push the grout into all the spaces between the mosaics. Then remove as much as possible from the top of the tiles. Rub off the excess grout with a piece of scrunched up newspaper. When the grout is dry, buff the mosaics.

CW



# A Bird in the Hand

*This easy-to-make whimsical felt wall hanging can be framed as a picture or hung on a little wire frame to display on your sideboard.*



## REQUIREMENTS

- (1) 4" x 18" (10 cm x 45 cm) wool blend felt in soft blue colour for background trimmed down to 4" x 10"
- 4" x 7" beige felt for hand
- Off cuts of felt for bird and bottom cuff sections (teal, purple, medium brown and dark brown or your choice of colours)
- Embroidery thread: Dark brown, medium brown, bright green and dark red
- Embroidery needle
- Appliqué paper
- Fabric glue
- Small, sharp embroidery scissors
- Paper scissors
- 1 seed bead: brown or black
- Rotary cutter, ruler and mat

For the stand you need:

- 2 thin dowels or off cuts of bamboo ( $\pm 1$  cm thick)
- 25 cm galvanised wire
- 4 cm x 17.5 cm wood off cut
- Side cutter and pliers
- Electric drill, 1 mm and 10 mm wood bits
- Wood glue

*By Sharon Calverley*

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Copy the hand shape onto the **paper** side of the appliqué paper and cut out along the line. Reverse the image if you want it to point the other way.

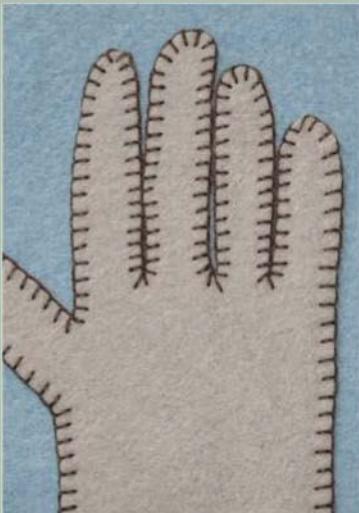
Fuse the appliqué paper to the back of the beige felt you are using for the hand. When cool, cut out along lines.

Remove the paper backing and position  $\pm 2"$  up from the bottom of the background felt. Fuse in place.



2

Using two strands of dark brown embroidery thread, blanket stitch around the hand.



3

Cut the bottom two sections and glue in

place. You don't have to use appliqué paper method here because they are really basic shapes.

I blanket stitched around the purple section and did a running stitch around the bottom section. You can decide if you would like to use a running stitch on both or not.



Don't forget to stitch in the vertical lines on the bottom section.

4

Lightly draw in the vine shapes behind the bird with a soft pencil or water soluble pen. This is a whimsical picture so try not to keep too rigidly to the design.

Using 2 strands of green thread stitch out the vines. I used a back stitch and a four-wrap French knot (You can use more wraps if you like to make the knot stand higher.)

5

Copy the bird and wing shape onto appliqué paper.

Cut out just outside the lines.

Fuse onto medium brown and dark brown felt then cut out along the lines.

Fuse in place on the hand.

Using one strand of medium brown thread, either blanket stitch or use a running stitch to appliqué in place.



Attach the bead for the eye.

6

Now using the rotary cutter, ruler and mat cut two **very** thin strips from the dark brown felt. They should measure:  $1/8"$  x  $2"$ . Cut carefully - you don't want to cut your fingers!

Glue in place with fabric glue then stitch in place with a running stitch running through the middle of the strip.



7

Draw little hearts in the bottom section with water soluble pen. Try to make different types of hearts - some longer than others.

Using 2 strands of dark red thread stitch the hearts using a back stitch.



8

If you are going to frame the picture, trim off  $1"$  from the top and frame. If you want to make the little wire hanging system continue as follows:

Fold  $1"$  at the top over to the back and press.

9

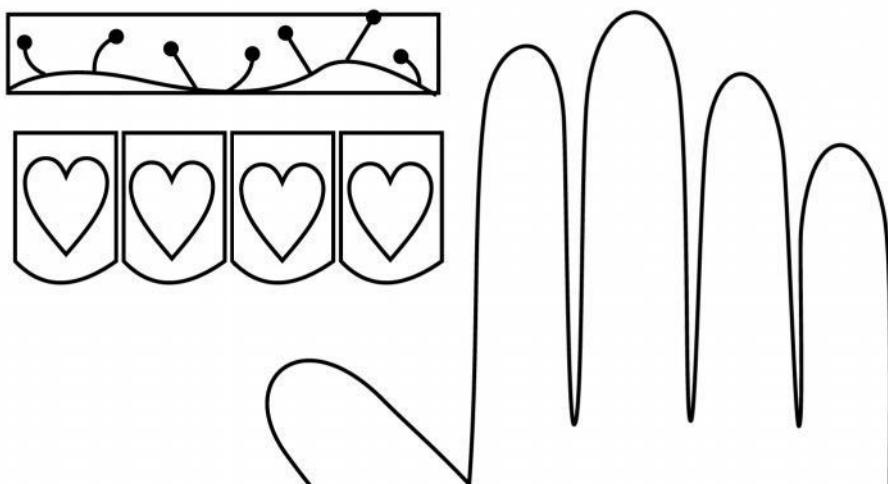
Stitch in place by hand or sew in place with a sewing machine. This is going to form the casing for the wire hanger.

10

Trim the dark brown felt to 4" x 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ " and place at the back of the embroidered picture, just under the casing. This will hide the back of the stitching threads and any messy areas.

Using a sewing machine, stitch all the way around with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

Put aside while we make the little hanging system.



11

Drill a 10 mm hole on either side of the wood block 1 cm in from either end.

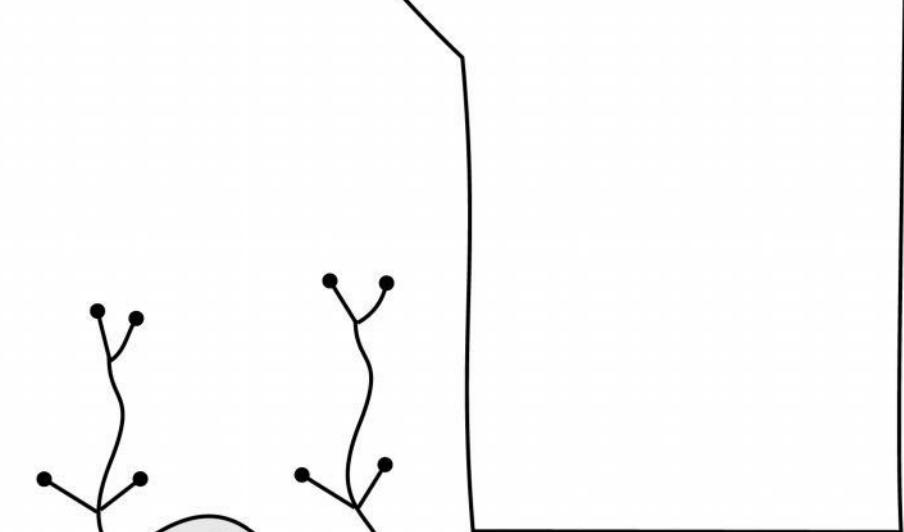
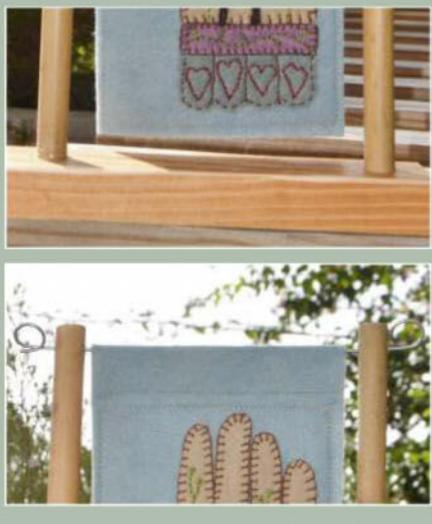
Cut the dowel / bamboo into 25 cm lengths. (Referred to as dowels).

Drill a 1 mm hole through one end of each dowel.

Glue the dowels into the wood block, making sure that the ends with the drilled holes are at the top and aligned. Leave to dry.

Insert the wire through one end, then through the casing of your little picture and out through the other dowel.

Using pliers, bend the ends of the wire into a pretty shape. CW



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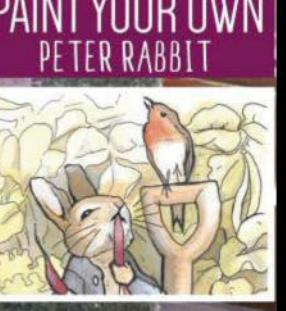
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## REQUIREMENTS

- An indigenous tree - we used a pom pom tree
- Some flour
- A spade
- A tubtrug
- Hand-held trowel
- Superphosphate / bonemeal
- Compost
- A filled watering can

This spring we are also celebrating life in more ways than one, by supporting The Sunflower Fund and the amazing work that they do in our community for patients that have been diagnosed with life-threatening blood disorders such as leukaemia and are in need of a stem cell transplant.

Why not show your support for the organisation, by purchasing and making use of the Topes (Tubes of Hope) as sweatbands while planting your tree with the kids. They run the annual Sunflower Day (previously Bandana Day) and will this year be celebrating it on the 16th of

# SPRINGING

## life back into the garden!

By Life is a Garden

*As September starts and the blossoming flowers of spring begin to bud their gorgeous heads, we are reminded of the new life that spring brings and the joy that comes with it.*

*What better way to celebrate life, growth and a new season than by planting a tree? This has always been a Spring Day tradition and we decided to continue with it this year, by planting a cheerful indigenous tree. Trees bring so much life and colour to a garden and they are a gift that will keep on giving for years to come.*

*Planting a tree is always so much fun to do with kiddies because it allows them to get dirty and dig up a big hole in Mom's garden, which is just the best part about the whole thing.*

September to raise funds for the cause. Topes are available from August at your nearest Pick 'n Pay retailer and are available in:  
Children's size for only R20 (incl VAT) and Adult's size for only R25 (incl VAT).

You too can make a difference and contribute to saving lives. Hope begins with you!



**The Sunflower Fund**  
share a little save a life

## INSTRUCTIONS

### The A, B, C's of planting a tree:

1. Firstly, scout your garden or the area where you have permission to plant a tree and select somewhere that is spacious enough to allow the indigenous tree to grow. We chose the pom pom tree as it only grows to about 6 metres high and is perfect for a garden.
2. Spread some flour in a square over the area that you have selected to plant the tree, as a guideline of where to dig. This space should be at least twice as deep and twice as wide as the container that the tree is in, so that the tree is encouraged to spread its roots and stabilise as it grows.
3. Get the kiddies to dig out the hole and to get nice and messy while doing it.
4. Place the dug-up soil into a tubtrug (a large bucket or wheelbarrow can be used instead) and mix it together with some superphosphate or bonemeal and compost.
5. Place your tree in the centre of the hole in an upright position
6. Refill the hole with the dug-out soil mixture, filling the hole right to the top, to hold the tree in place.
7. Use your watering can to water the newly planted tree thoroughly.
8. Once you have cleaned up around the tree, make some garden party bunting with the topes and set up a kiddies picnic to make this activity even more fun.

CW

For more information on bringing Life to your Garden, visit our website [www.lifeisagarden.co.za](http://www.lifeisagarden.co.za) or join the conversation on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/lifeisagardensa](http://www.facebook.com/lifeisagardensa).



# Sea Breeze Bracelet

## using a Square Stitch

A delicate bracelet with a wavy pattern. The colour and wavy pattern brings to mind holidays at the seaside with the wind playing in the waves and the beautiful aqua sea colour.

By **Francene Matthys**  
of Beads Direct SA

## REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

Skill Level: Easy

Bracelet size: ±18 cm

- Rocaille seed beads: sizes 15°, 11°, 8° and 6°
- 1 x Clasp
- ± 8 m Nymo
- Beading needle

Use a comfortable length Nymo and thread the needle. Leave a ± 30 cm tail which will be used to add the one part of the clasp.

Pick up 7 x 11°'s and pass the needle through beads 4, 5, 6 and 7; pull tight. These 4 beads will form a square. Pick up 1 x 11° and pass the needle through beads 3

and 4 and up through the last two beads. Pick up 1 x 11° and pass the needle through beads 2 and 3 and up through the last two beads. Pick up 1 x 8° and pass the needle through beads 1 and 2 and up through the last two beads. Pass the needle through the first row, exiting between the second last two beads, up and through the first bead of the second row.

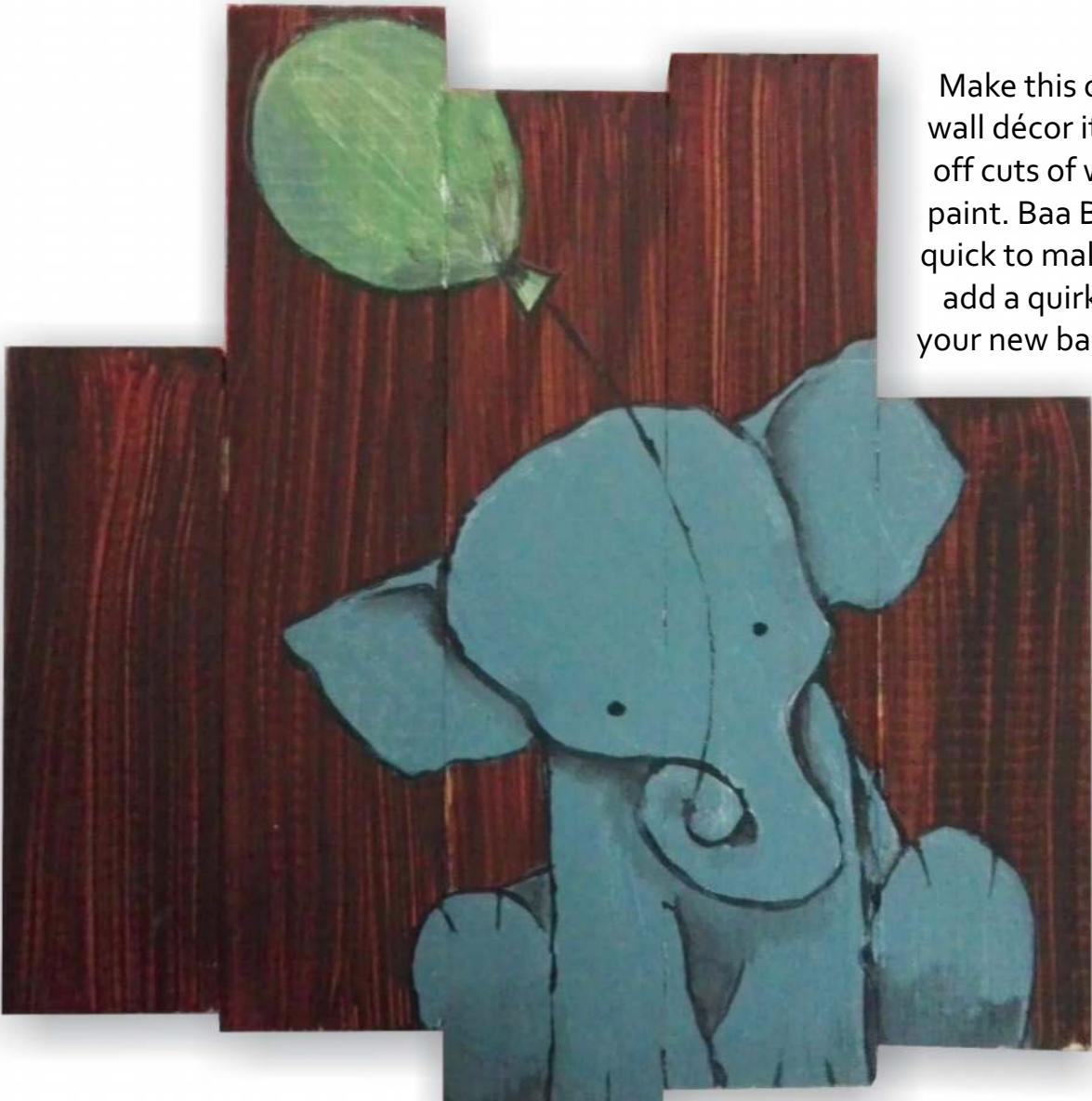
\*\*Square stitch 3 x 11° and 2 x 8°. Square stitch 2 x 11° and 3 x 8°. Square stitch 1 x 11°, 3 x 8° and 1 x 6°. Square stitch 3 x 8° and 2 x 6°. Square stitch 2 x 8° and 3 x 6°. Square stitch 1 x 8° and 4 x 6°. Square

stitch 5 x 6°. Square stitch 5 x 6°. Square stitch 5 x 6°. Square stitch 4 x 6° and 1 x 8°. Square stitch 3 x 6° and 2 x 8°. Square stitch 2 x 6° and 3 x 8°. Square stitch 1 x 6°, 3 x 8° and 1 x 11°. Square stitch 3 x 8° and 2 x 11°. Square stitch 2 x 8° and 3 x 11°. Square stitch 1 x 8° and 4 x 11°. Square stitch 5 x 11°. Square stitch 4 x 11° and 1 x 8°. Repeat from \*\*

Repeat once more, including the first two rows from the previous step. End the 3rd "wave" with 5 x 11°'s.

Add the clasp and embellish 1 row, right around using the 15°'s.





Make this cute little wall décor item using off cuts of wood and paint. Baa Baa Ellie is quick to make and will add a quirky feel to your new baby's room.

by Hannalie Hurter

# baa baa ellie

## REQUIREMENTS

- Off cut pieces of wood (you can use any size off cuts as these get joined together to form one larger piece. Simply enlarge the pattern to fit)
- Wood glue
- Acrylic paint: grey, green, brown and black
- Liner brush, and round tip brush
- Hanging fittings

Our new baby is a boy -  
but if you are expecting a  
little girl - make a pink  
ellie!

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Glue the off cut wood pieces together.



3

Paint the elephant grey and the balloon green.



5

Remember to add the balloon's string!



2

Cover the entire piece with brown paint.



For a more solid background, paint two to three coats.

I wanted the woodgrain to show through so I diluted the paint slightly.

Allow to dry and trace the pattern onto the background.

4

Using the round tip brush, lightly add shadows with a watery black paint as shown below.

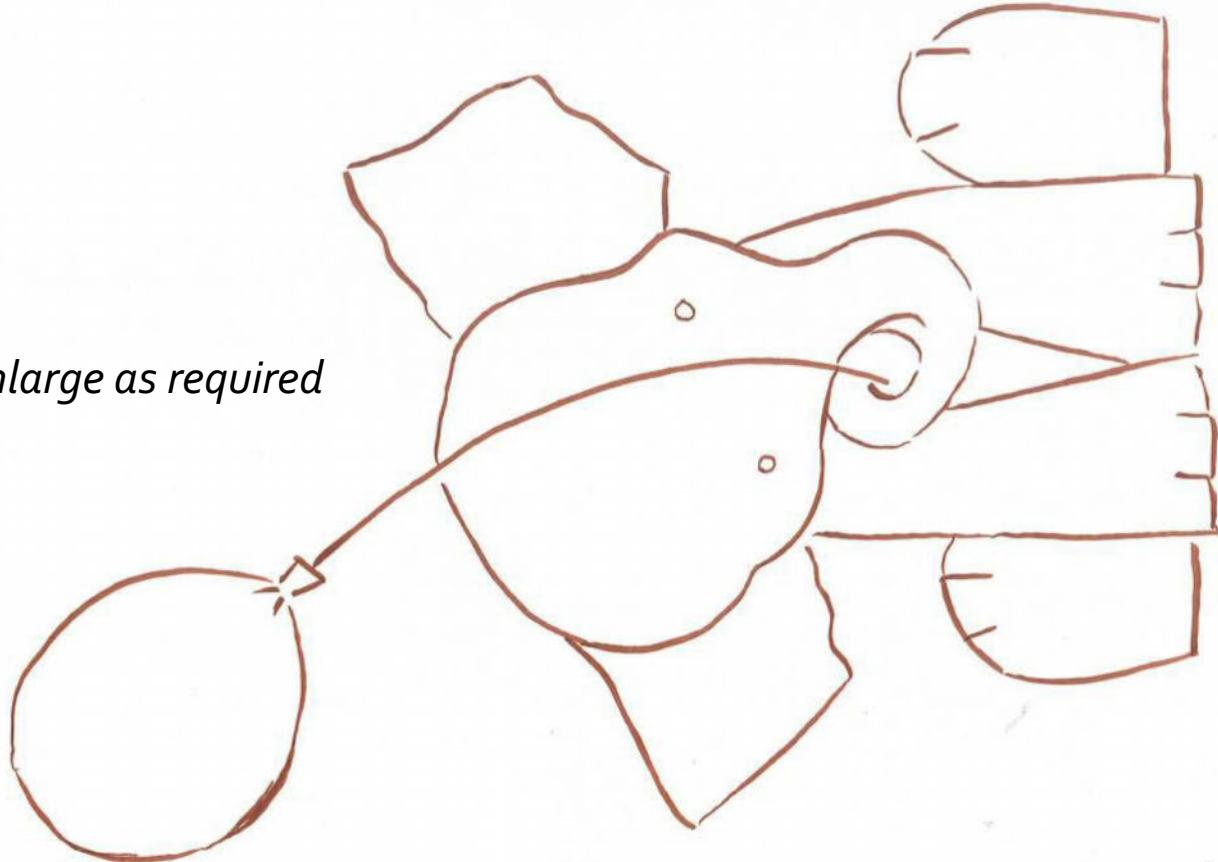


Using a liner brush and undiluted black paint, outline the elephant and balloon.

When dry, attach fittings and hang up.

CW

*Enlarge as required*





This project was inspired by one of our Parys customers, Roelien Terblanche, who has made more than 10 of these plaques, ranging from seaside scenes to farm scenes - all in different sizes. You can mosaic it just as a wall plaque or add the "welcome" word at the bottom to hang in your entrance hall. If you are English - the English "Welcome" blank is available!

## REQUIREMENTS

by Petro Strijdom for Trunell crafts

- Wooden blank 380 mm x 540 mm or size of your choice
- Wooden welcome word
- Mosaic tiles in baby blue for the sky, dark blue for the water and greens for the hill
- Red tiles or colour of your choice to mosaic welcome word
- A variety of inserts: houses, café, chef, fishes, boats, trees, birds, flowers, raindrops, cobblestones, etc.
- Cold glue or wood glue
- Flexible tile adhesive
- Piece of wire
- Dove grey grout
- Nippers

## INSTRUCTIONS

1

Using a pencil, lightly draw a line where houses, shops and water level meet. You can draw this line as straight or curvy as you like.



2

Glue houses, shops, trees, birds, sun, raindrops, clouds etc., on top of the line.



3

Glue the boats and fishes under the pencil line. Some of the boats can overlap the line going into the row of buildings and cobblestones.



4

Glue cobblestones between the boats and buildings to create a separation between the two.



5

Break the blue ceramic tiles into pieces and mosaic the sky area. Do the same with the darker water area.

6

Mosaic the word Welkom (or Welcome).

7

Mix the grout as per manufacturer's instructions. You need to be able to pour the grout onto the mosaic if you used ceramic tiles. For glass tiles try a toothpaste consistency. Work the grout over the tiles with a rubber kidney, old credit card or your hand, making sure the grout fills all the spaces.

Use a rubber kidney to remove the excess grout from the surface of the mosaic before completing the grouting. Use a paper towel to clean the rest of the grout off the tiles and then polish it with a soft cloth.

8

Paint the edges of your house with black paint or any colour you prefer.



Paint the edges of the wood with craft paint (any colour you like).

9

Use flexible tile adhesive and glue all the leftover inserts - the small flowers, chef, a dog, some of the birds, etc., onto the finished mosaic to create a 3D effect.

10

Attach the Welkom (Welcome) word with wire to the top plaque. Hang up and enjoy!



*All materials and products used in this project are available from:*

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*This is really a lot simpler than it looks. It is a great project for a beginner knitter as the elasticated gut is very forgiving with regards to tension and can be gently persuaded to stretch where necessary. The only tricky bit is adding in the rows of beads. As it gets longer it is difficult to assume the usual "knitting pose", but just find a position that you feel comfortable in – you will know what I mean when you get there.*

## REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Roll 0.7 mm elasticated gut
- Assorted mix of beads
- 6.5 mm knitting needles
- Lampshade
- Clear adhesive
- Optional: clear vellum
- Optional: old dangly earrings for decoration

# knitted beaded lampshade

by Sue Human

## INSTRUCTIONS

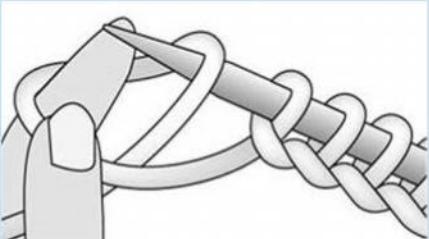
1

This is the long and "boring" bit: You have to thread on all your beads before you start knitting. I was not sure how many I would need, so I did a sample first. A sample requires your first row of stitches, a row of just gut, a row of beads, then three rows of gut. You then also have an idea of how it stretches out so that you can guess how many rows you will need to cover your lampshade.

I needed 55 stitches for a 9.5 cm diameter shade. I weighed 55 random sized beads and multiplied that by the amount of rows I would need, then weighed out the beads and added a bit for 'in case'. You do not want to get to the end of your beads and not the end of your shade.

2

Cast on as many stitches as you will need.



Knit the first row with the gut only.

3

Threading on the first row of beads:

Put the needle through first stitch, thread a bead on and complete the stitch. Try to ensure that the bead is kept on the **front** side of your row. Continue until you have knitted the full row adding a bead every time.



4

Now knit a full row of gut only. This is a little tricky because your knitting is now

very tight. Also, you must remember to push all the beads once again to the front of the knitting, otherwise they will sit on the inside of your shade. Do 2 more rows of only gut.



5

Now add another row of beads, then another three rows of gut. Continue with this until you have reached the desired length.

**Casting off:** The knot at the last stitch must be very secure as elasticated gut is slippery. As I said, the gut is forgiving, so just to be extra sure, I weaved the gut in and out a bit and did a few knots.

6

Cut a length of elasticated gut and join the two sides by weaving it in and out of the knitting and secure with a knot (or series of knots) at the end.

Cut a length of gut and begin weaving the knitted shade onto the lamp base. Just in case, I used three separate lengths and secured tightly with knots.



7

My shade is small and the globe needed a diffuser of light.



So I cut a piece of vellum and used sticky

tape to secure it into a cylinder shape and put it around the globe.

8

Lastly, because I am excessive, I NEEDED some sparkly drops. I found it impossible to find these locally, so the impatient me made a plan. I hung two pairs of my fabulously sparkly appropriately coloured earrings on the bottom and now I have another use for my lampshade (an earring hanger?)!

CW

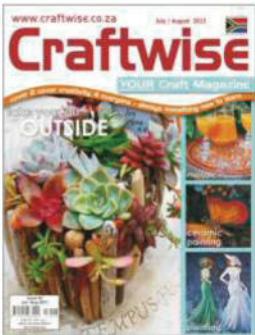


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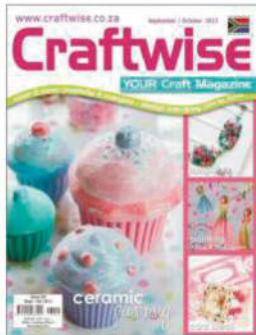
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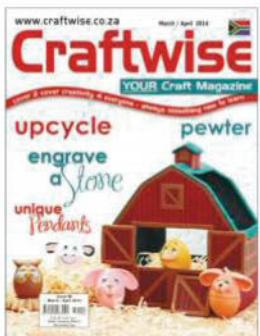
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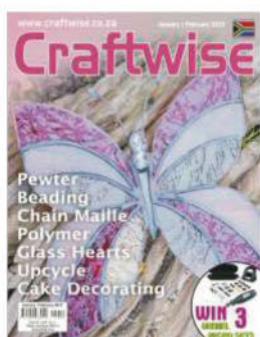
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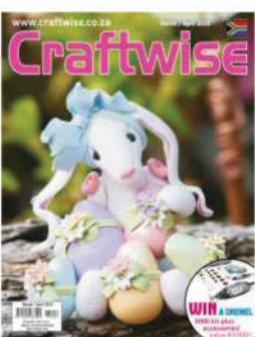
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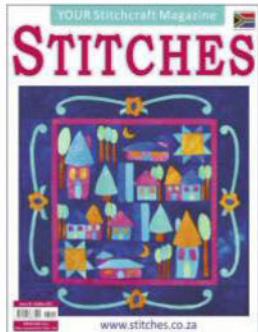
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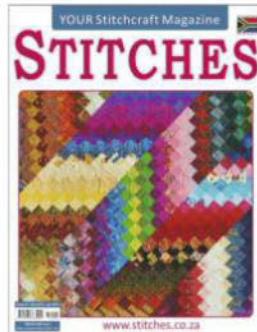
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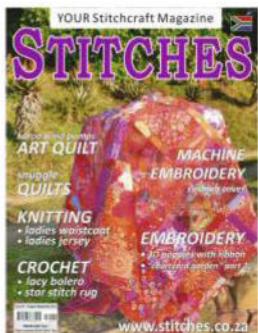
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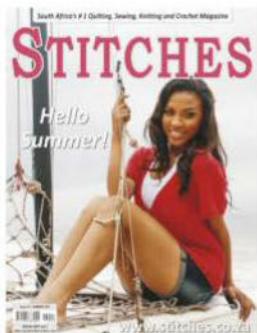
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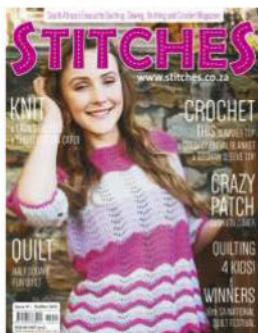
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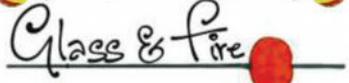
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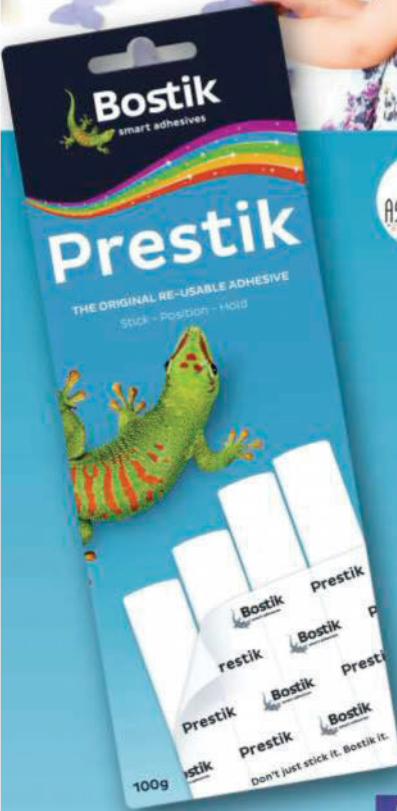
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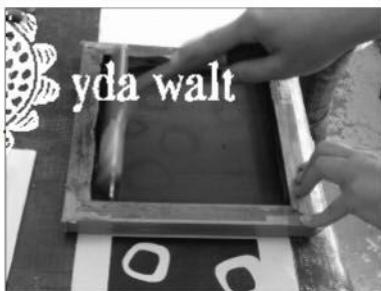
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[ref: sml75]

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We recommend an introductory hands-on workshop to get inspired! Contact Dragon Glass, 011 849 6430 or 082 457 2951 (business hours) or e-mail [acs-sa@artclaysilversa.com](mailto:acs-sa@artclaysilversa.com) for details of an instructor near you.

[ref: sml8]

Ladybird Crafts - Mosaic, Decoupage, Paint Effects & Gilding. Group Workshops & Weekly Classes in Pta East. Mosaic with tiles, china, ostrich shell & smalti. Decoupage furniture, gild & distress. Under glass decoupage. Contact Carol Tait cell 0824565923/ [ladybird@mweb.co.za](mailto:ladybird@mweb.co.za) [www.ladybirdcrafts.co.za](http://www.ladybirdcrafts.co.za). [ref: sml87]

## CRAFT / ART SUPPLIES

**HANDSPUN WOOL:** Specialising in Angora Rabbit Wool (bunny wool), also Sheep wool, Alpaca, and Mohair available in natural colours and dyed. Occasional slub silk and cotton. Mail order or visits by arrangement. Contact Yolande on cell 0732786125 or visit my website, [www.angorarabbits.co.za](http://www.angorarabbits.co.za). [ref: sml103]

## GLASSWORK

**DRAGON GLASS** - suppliers of all you need for the craft of Warm Glass. Our range of instructional videos is recognised world wide, NOW AVAILABLE ON DVD! Agents for the full Thompson Enamel range, "Vidriarte" glass sheet and accessory products, and CBS dichroic coated sheet glass, all Float compatible. We supply kilns, and all other tools and consumables for the craft - including our superior kiln wash/mould release! Contact Stan or Heather (011) 849 6430 or e-mail: [dragon@dragonglass.cc](mailto:dragon@dragonglass.cc) [ref: sml22]

## MINIATURES

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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## VIDEOS

### DECOUPAGE UNDER GLASS - AVAILABLE ON DVD

This video titled "Decoupage Under Glass and Advanced Background Techniques", is now available from Dragon Glass. Join us in a visual workshop. Step-by-step instructions on how to create masterpieces under glass. Includes instructions on glue-chipped glass, and lots more! Contact Stan or Heather (011) 849-6430 or email: [dragon@dragonglass.cc](mailto:dragon@dragonglass.cc) [ref: sml31]

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